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(54) **MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC PANEL OF
EOSINOPHILIC GASTROINTESTINAL
DISORDERS**

(75) Inventors: **Marc E. Rothenberg**, Cincinnati, OH
(US); **Julie Caldwell**, Cincinnati, OH
(US)

(73) Assignee: **Children's Hospital Medical Center**,
Cincinnati, OH (US)

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(2013.01)
USPC **424/85.2**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Embodiments of the invention are directed to methods of diagnosing eosinophilic gastritis (EG), or remission therefrom in a subject, wherein the methods include applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains selected markers for EG, analyzing the results thereof, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject. Embodiments of the invention are also directed to methods of monitoring the pathological development or medical prognosis of EG in a subject. Embodiments of the invention are also directed to use of CDH26 as a marker for EG, eosinophilic esophagitis, or allergic inflammatory conditions. Embodiments of the invention also relate to the use of anti-CDH26-based therapeutics to treat allergic inflammatory conditions.

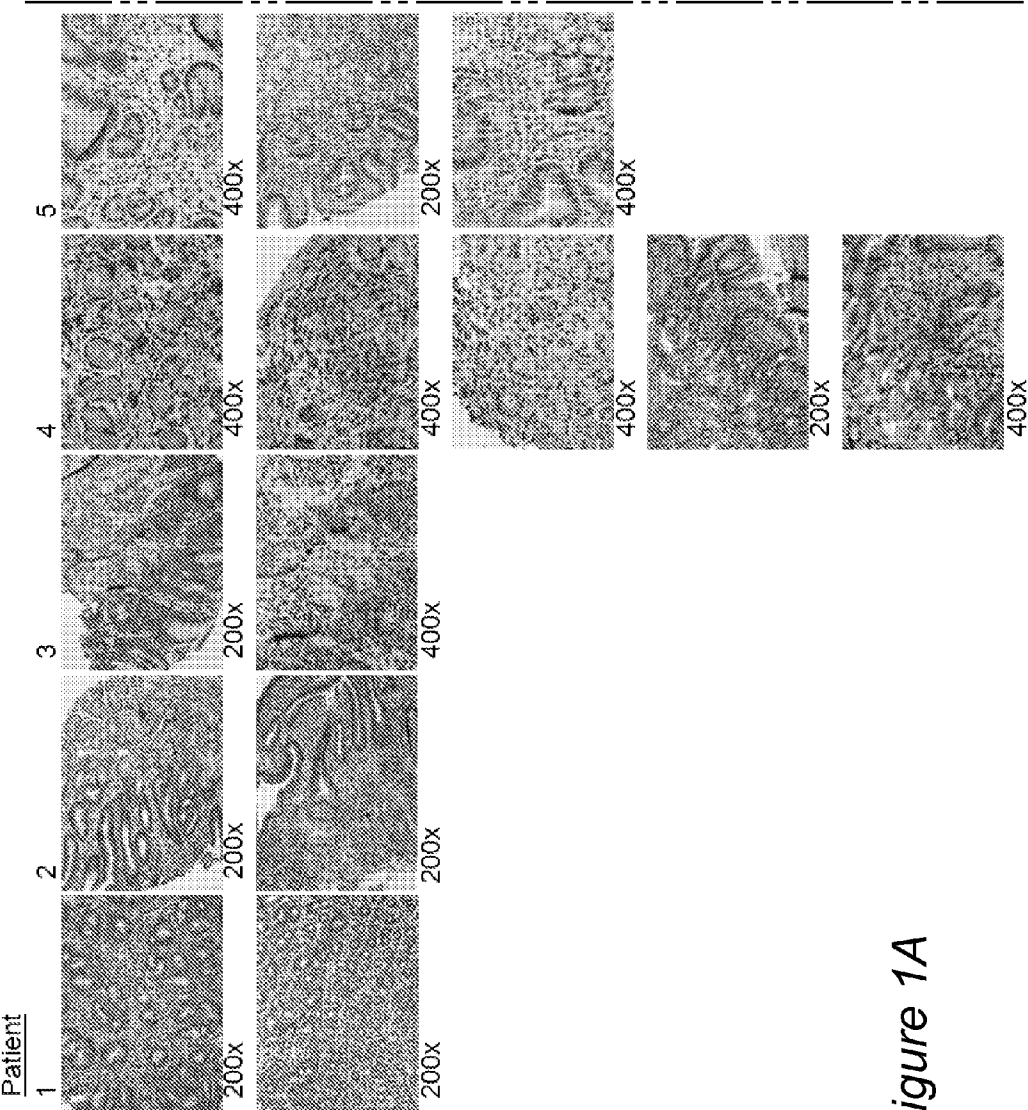


Figure 1A

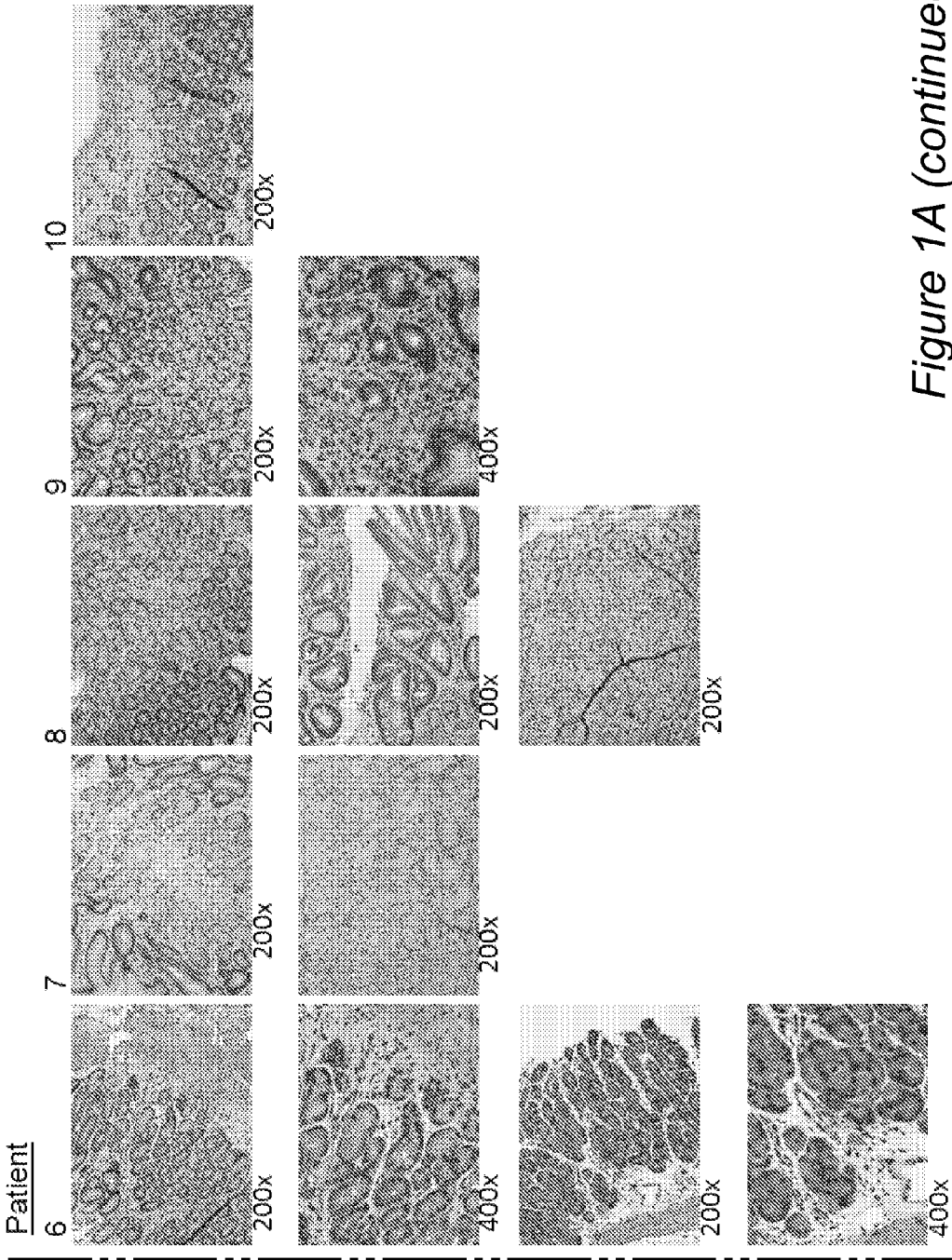


Figure 1A (continued)

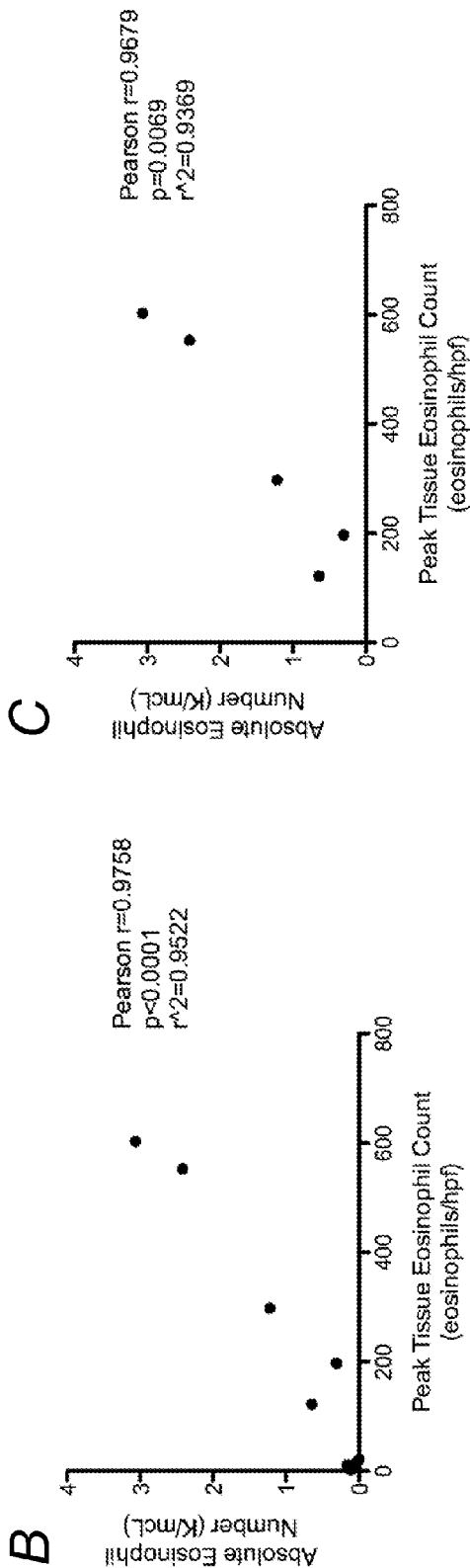


Figure 1

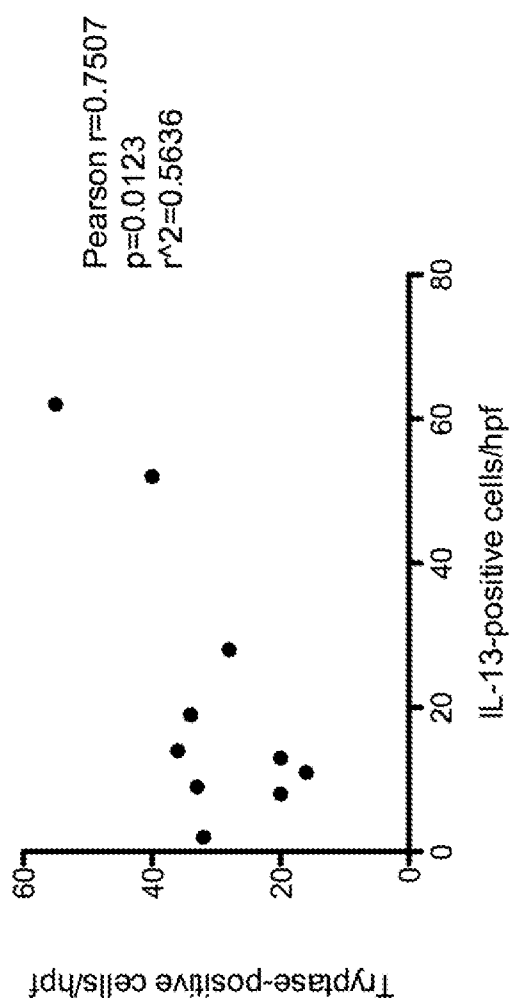


Figure 2

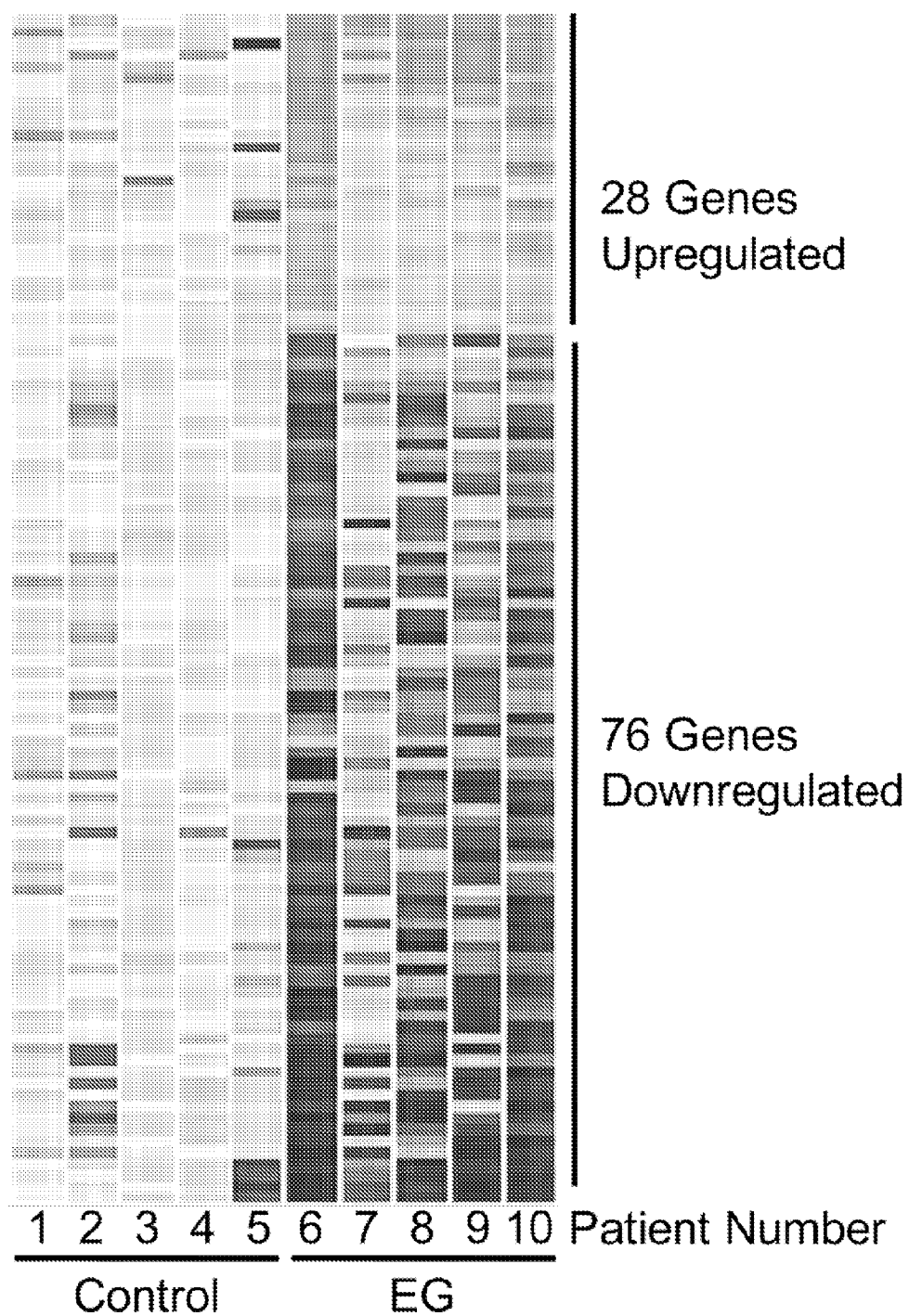


Figure 3A

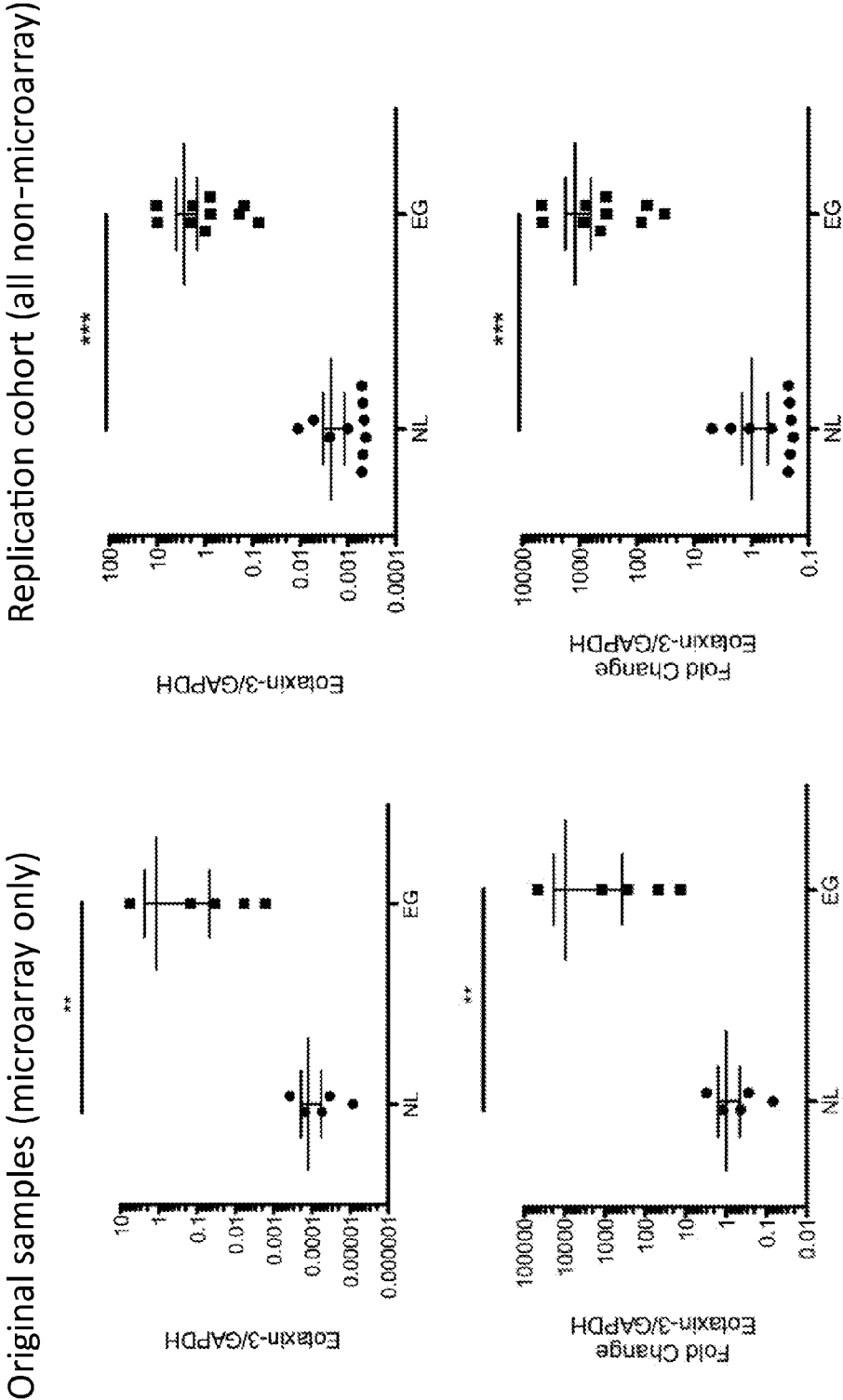


Figure 3B

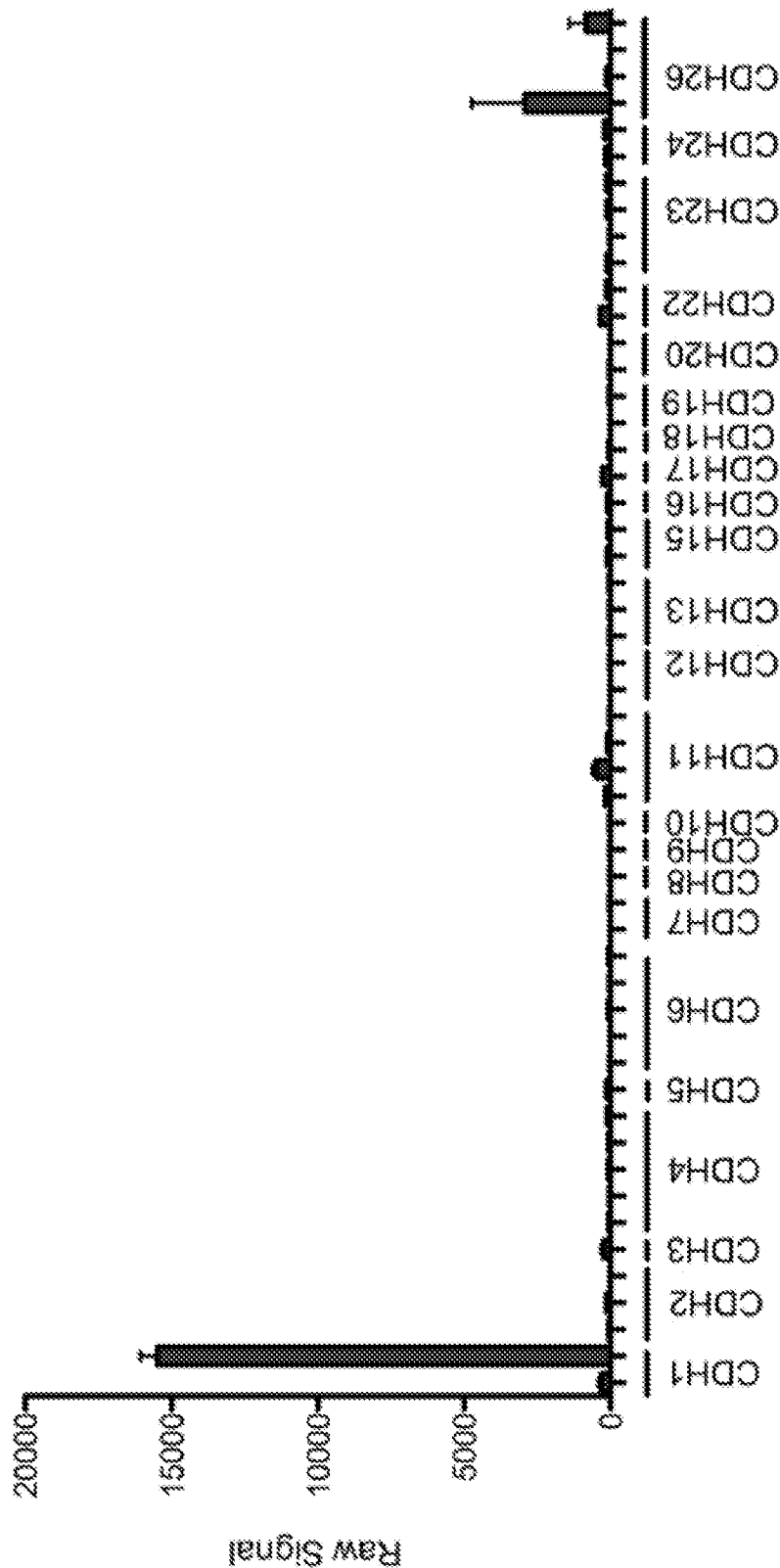


Figure 4A

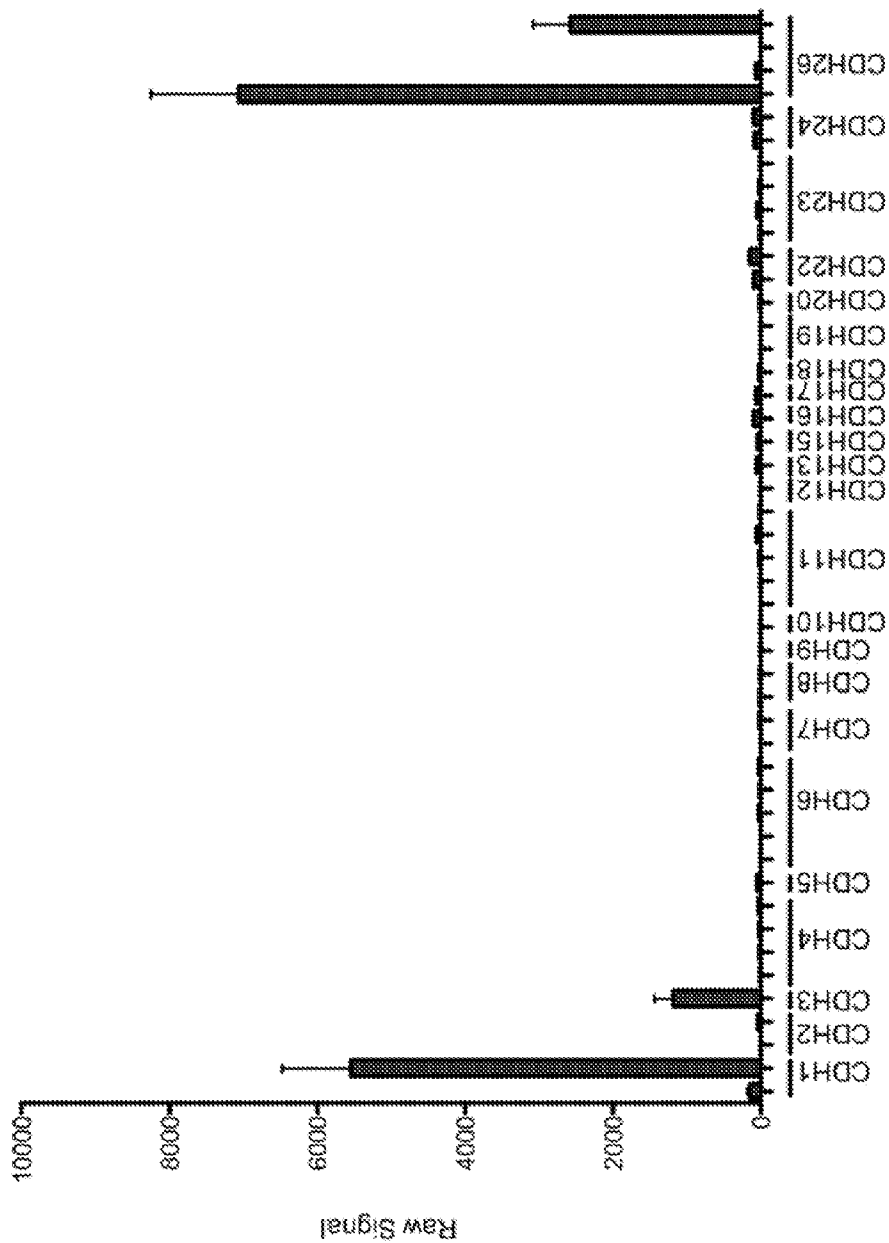


Figure 4B

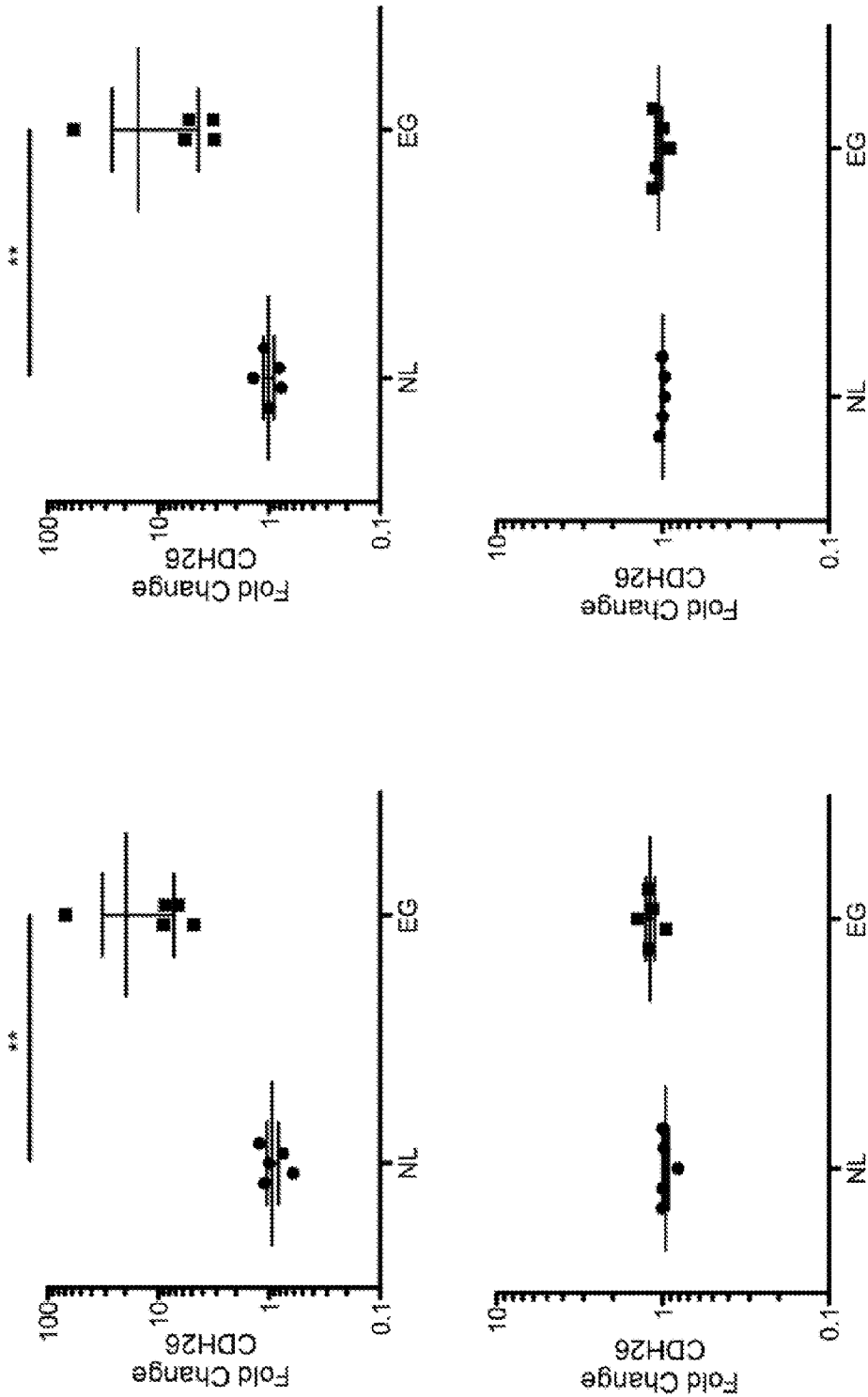


Figure 4C

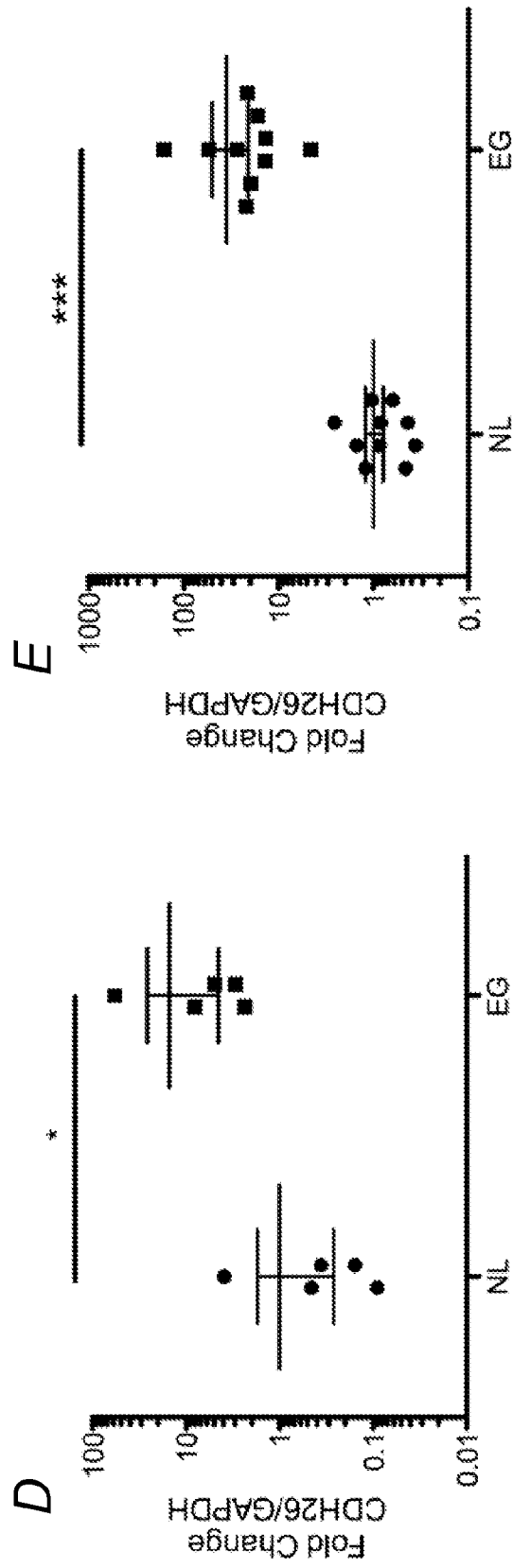


Figure 4

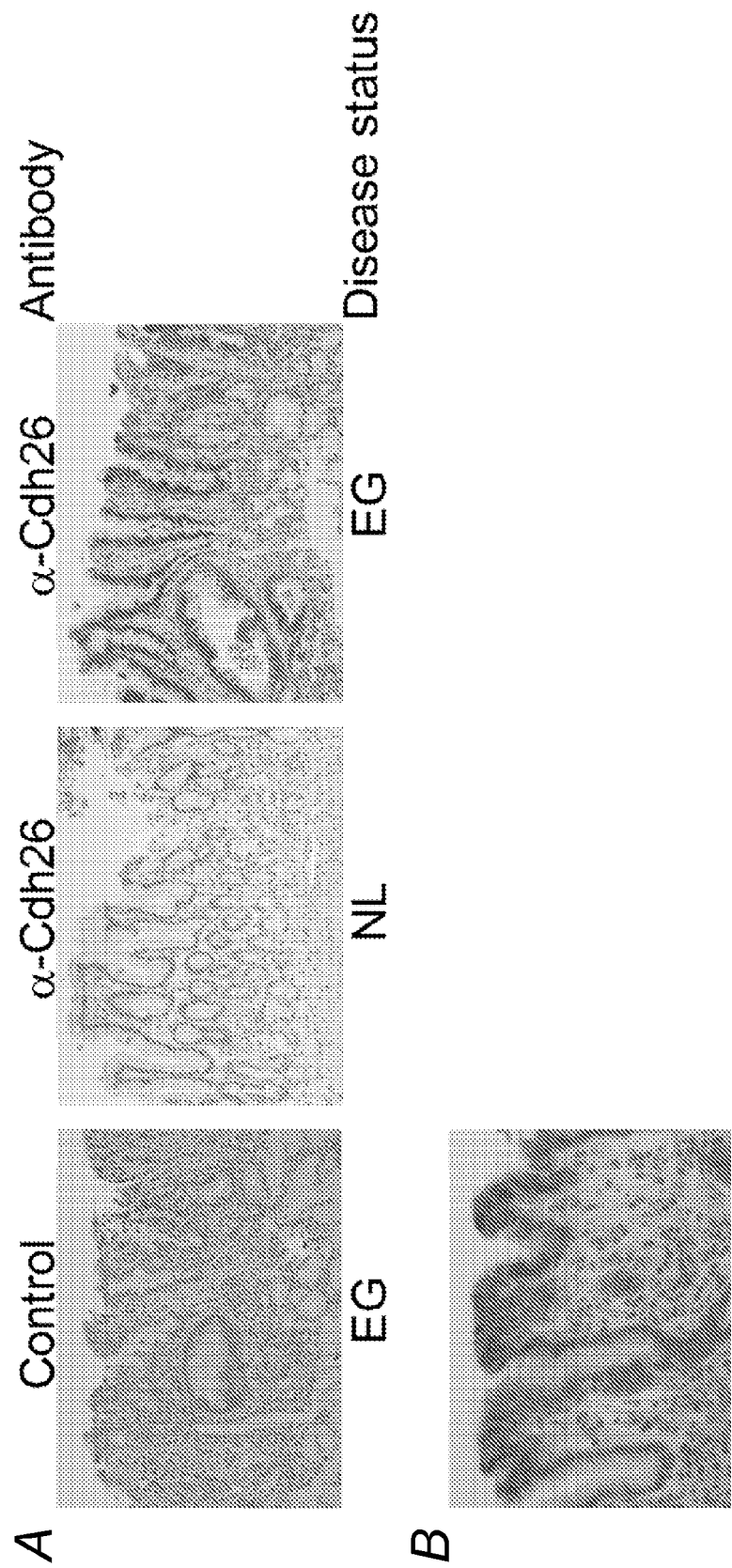


Figure 5

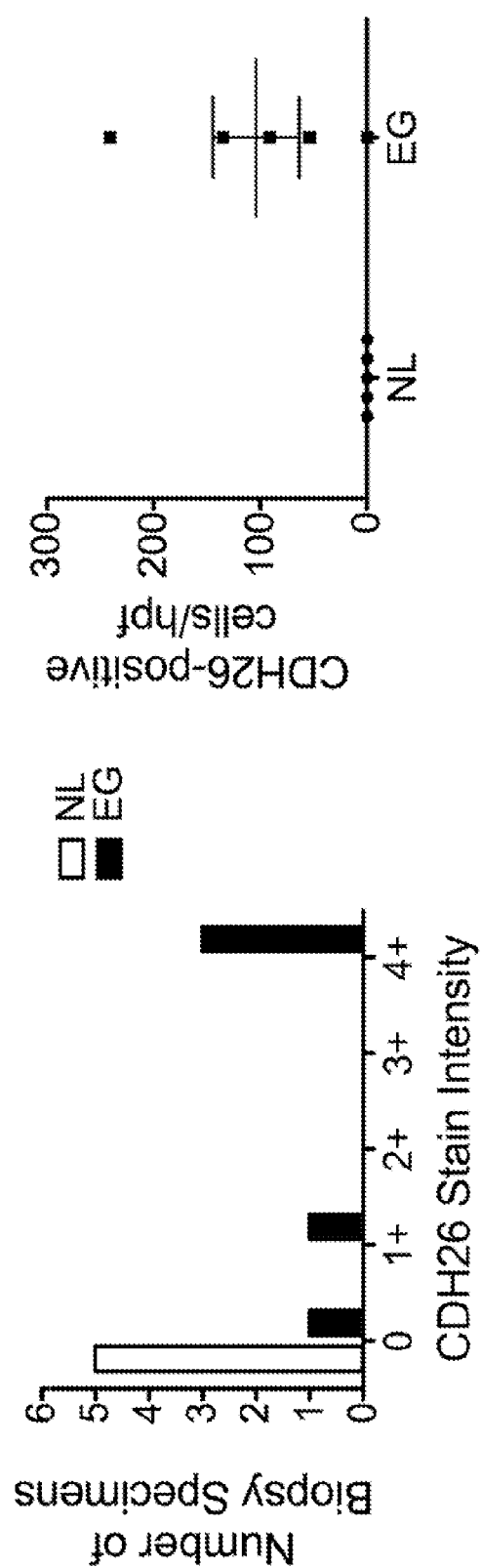


Figure 5C

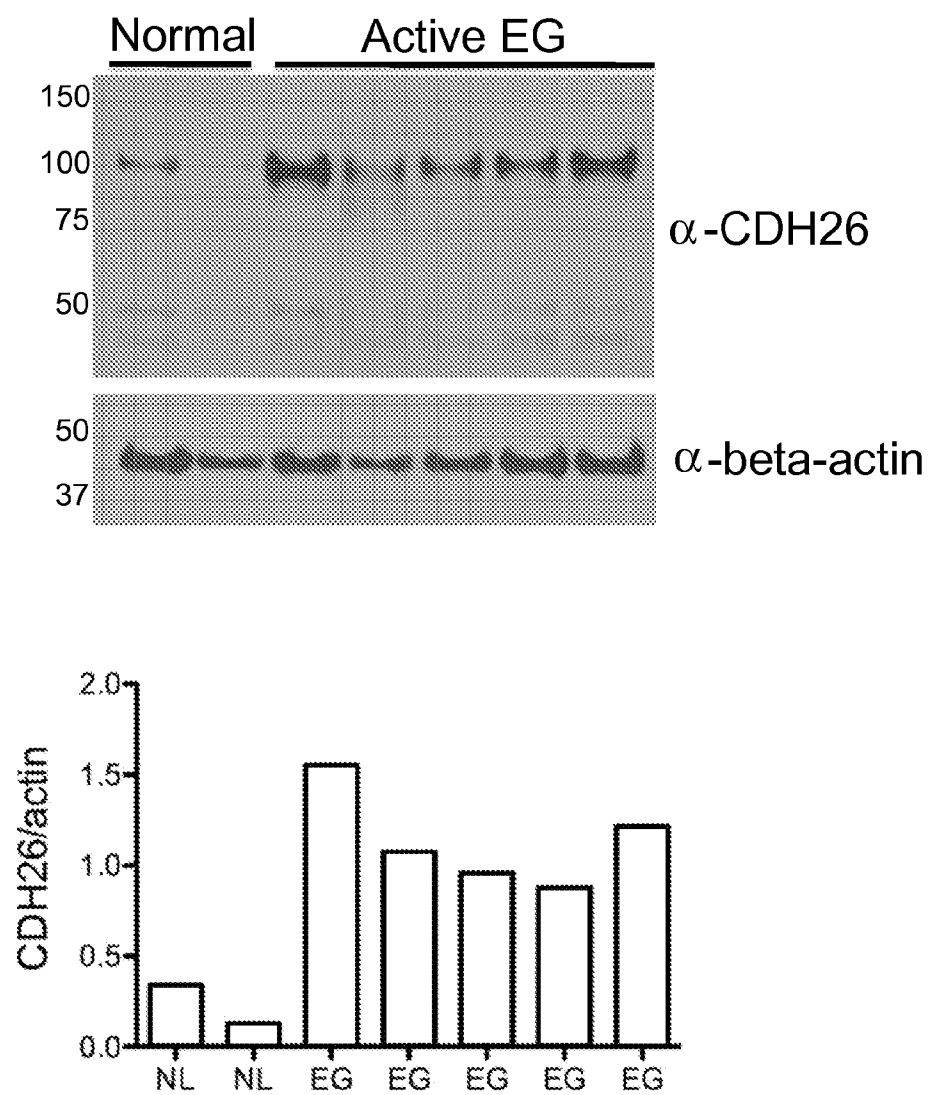


Figure 5D

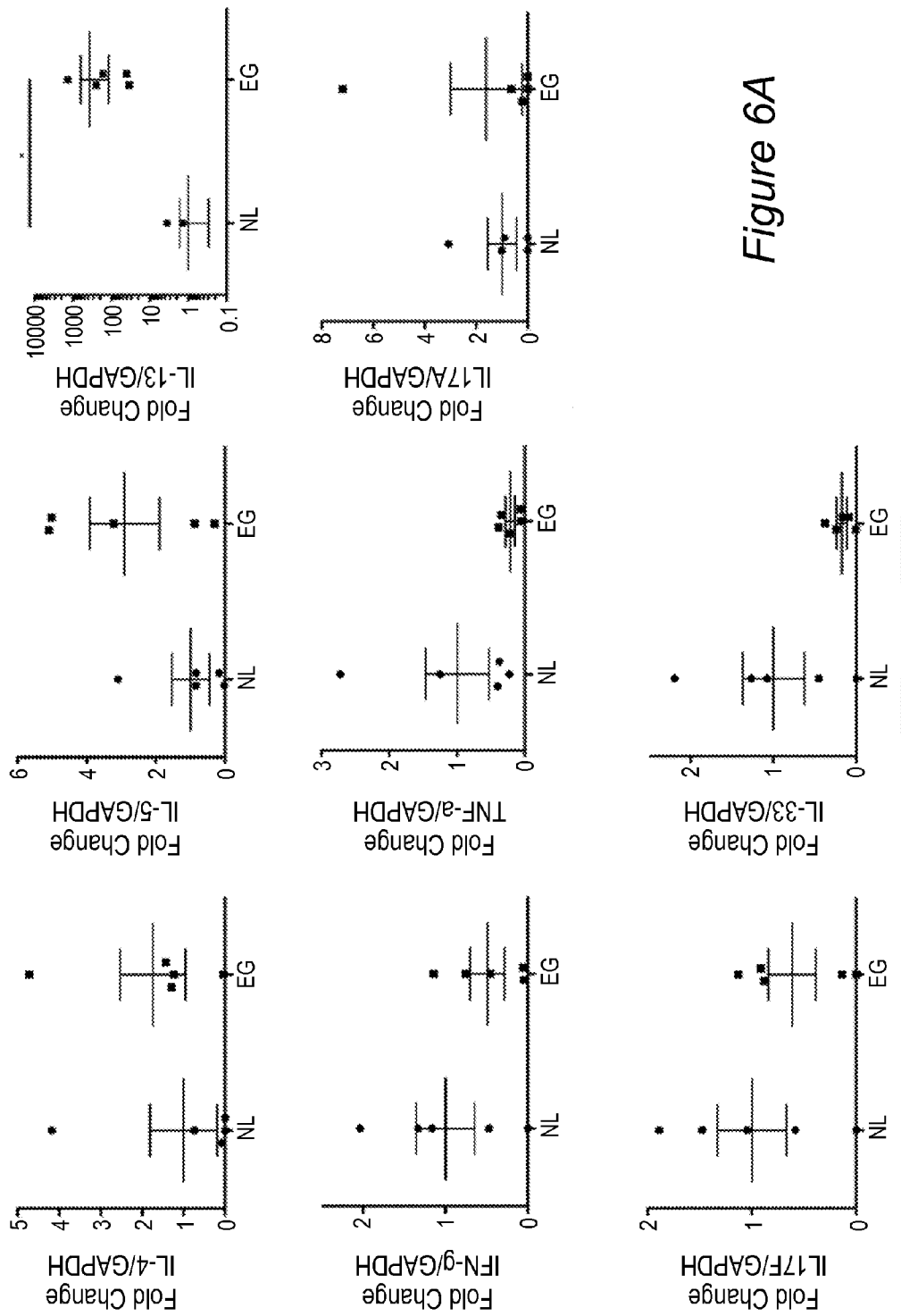


Figure 6A

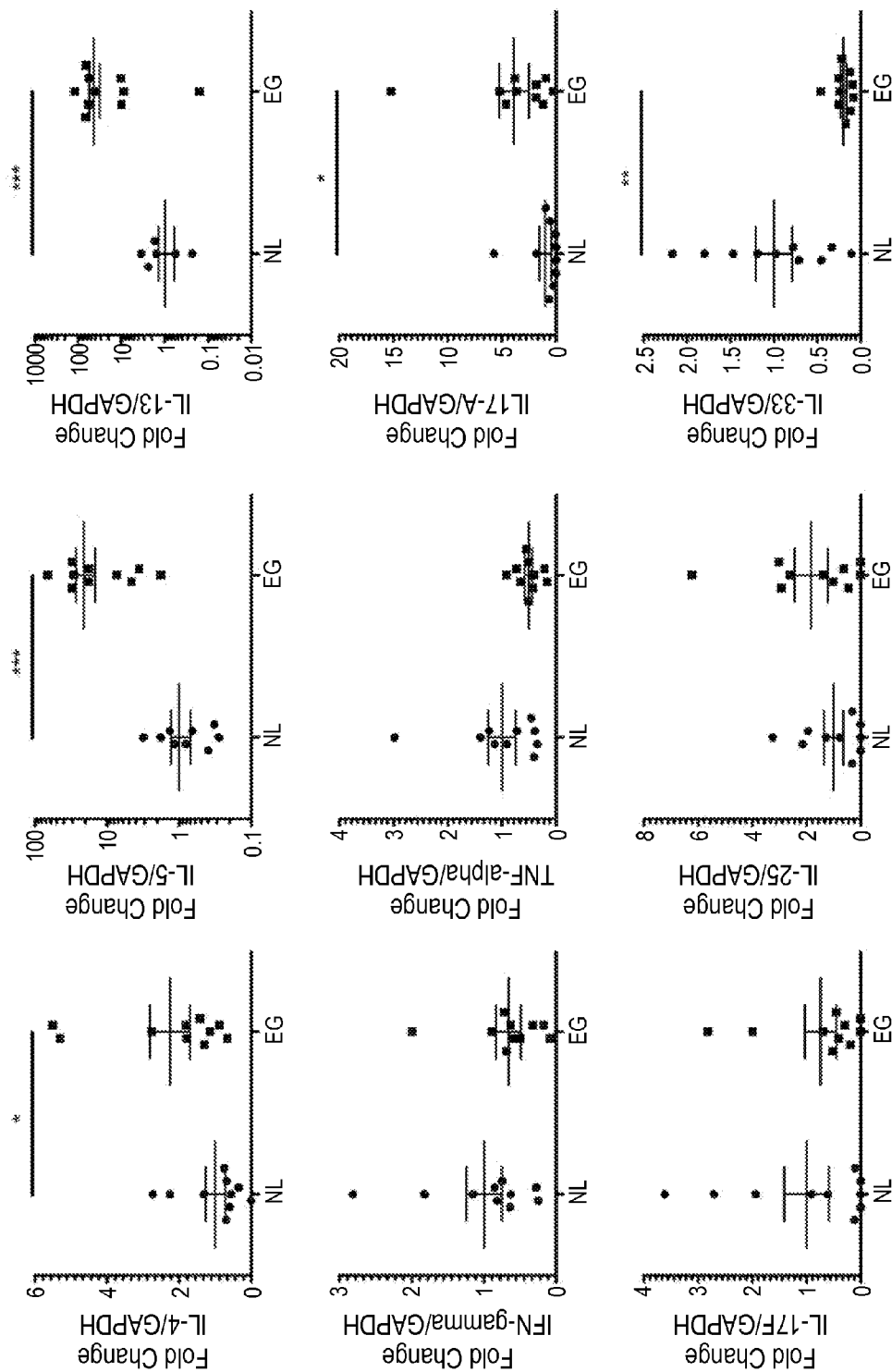


Figure 6B

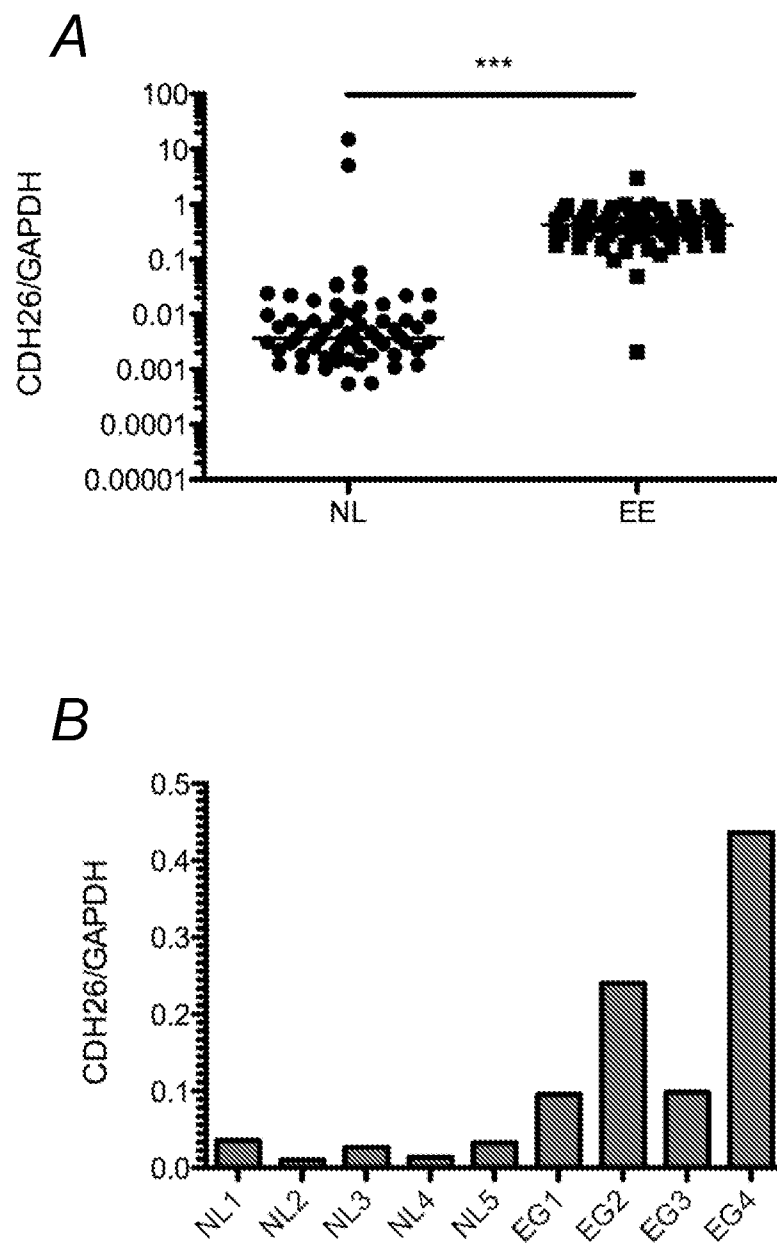


Figure 7

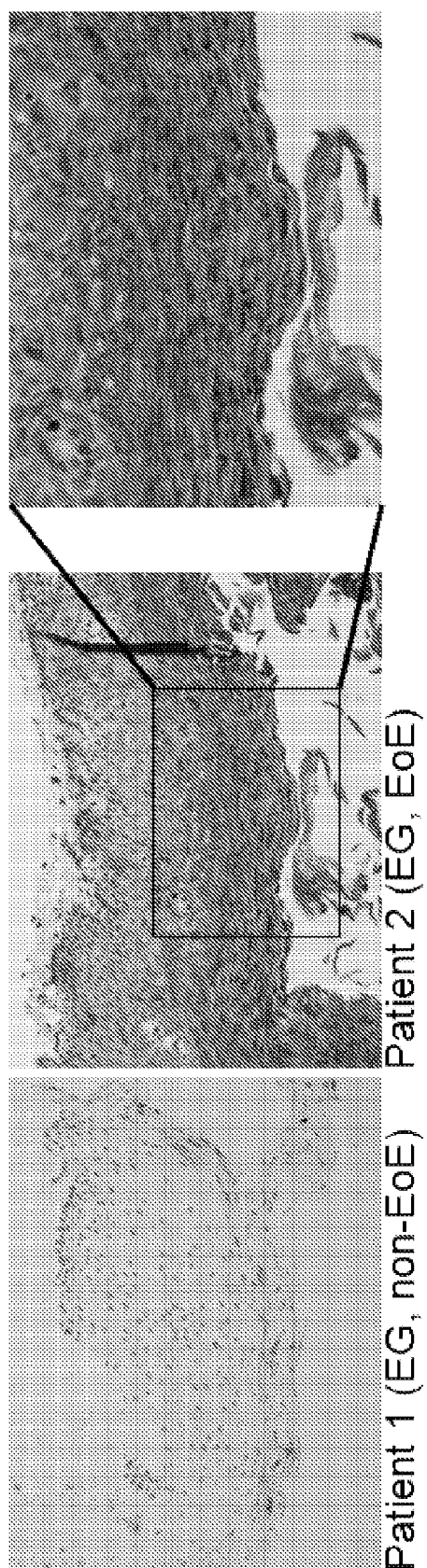


Figure 7C

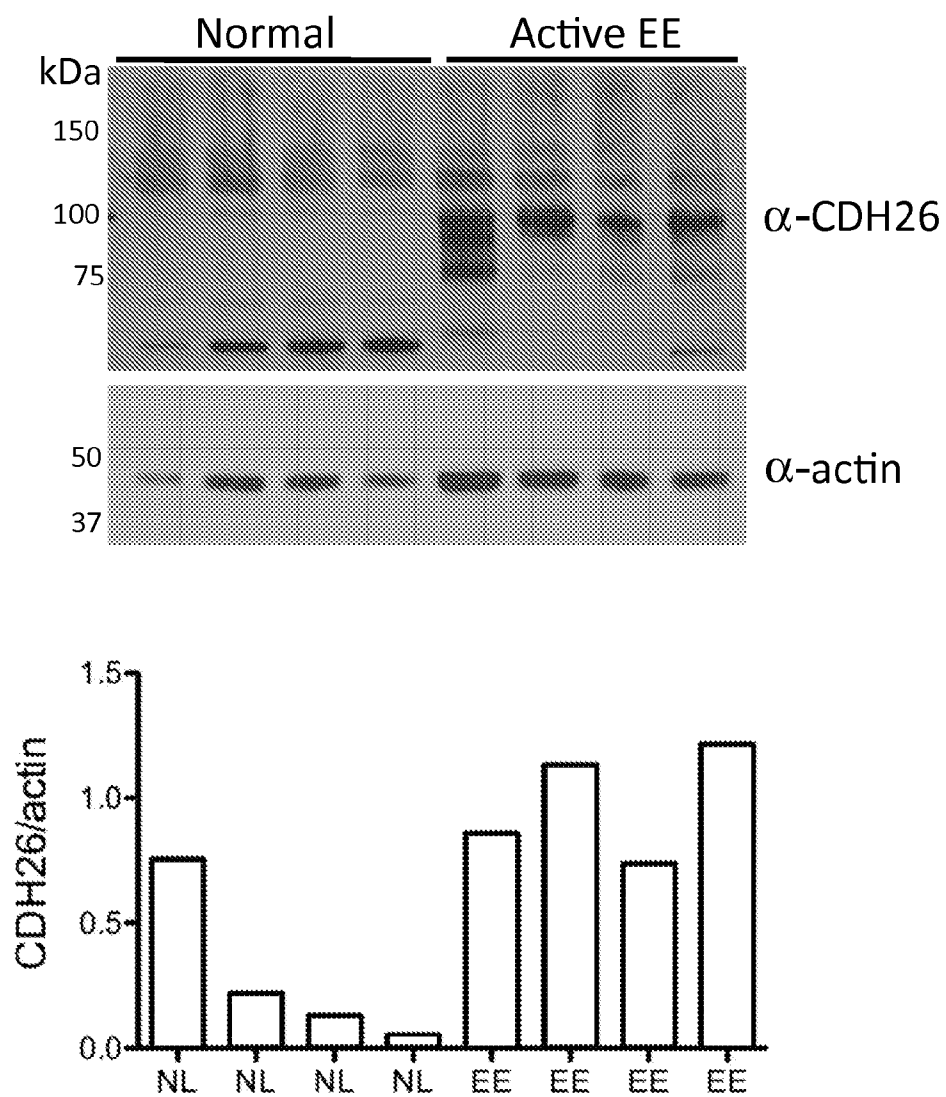
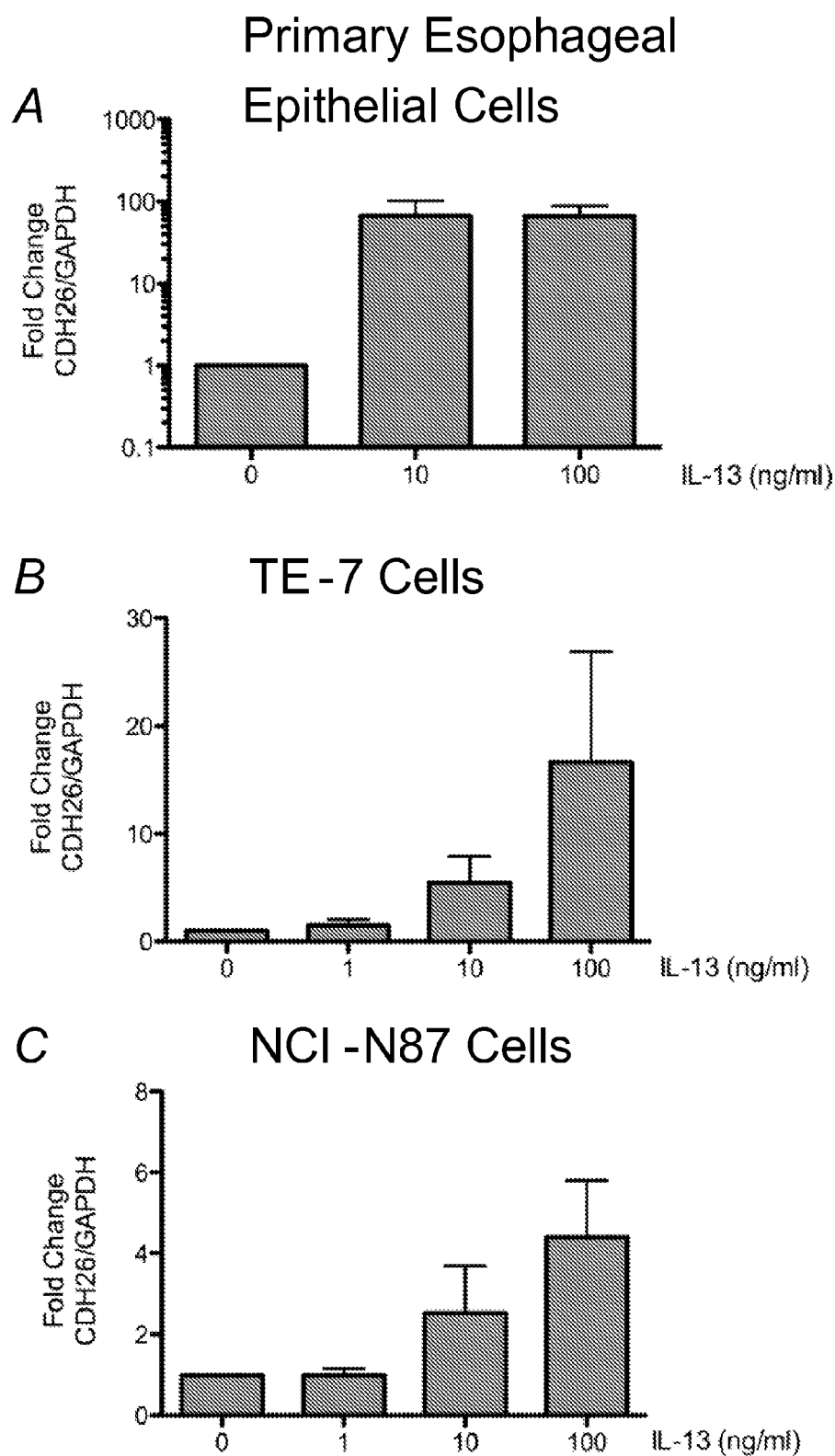


Figure 7D

*Figure 8*

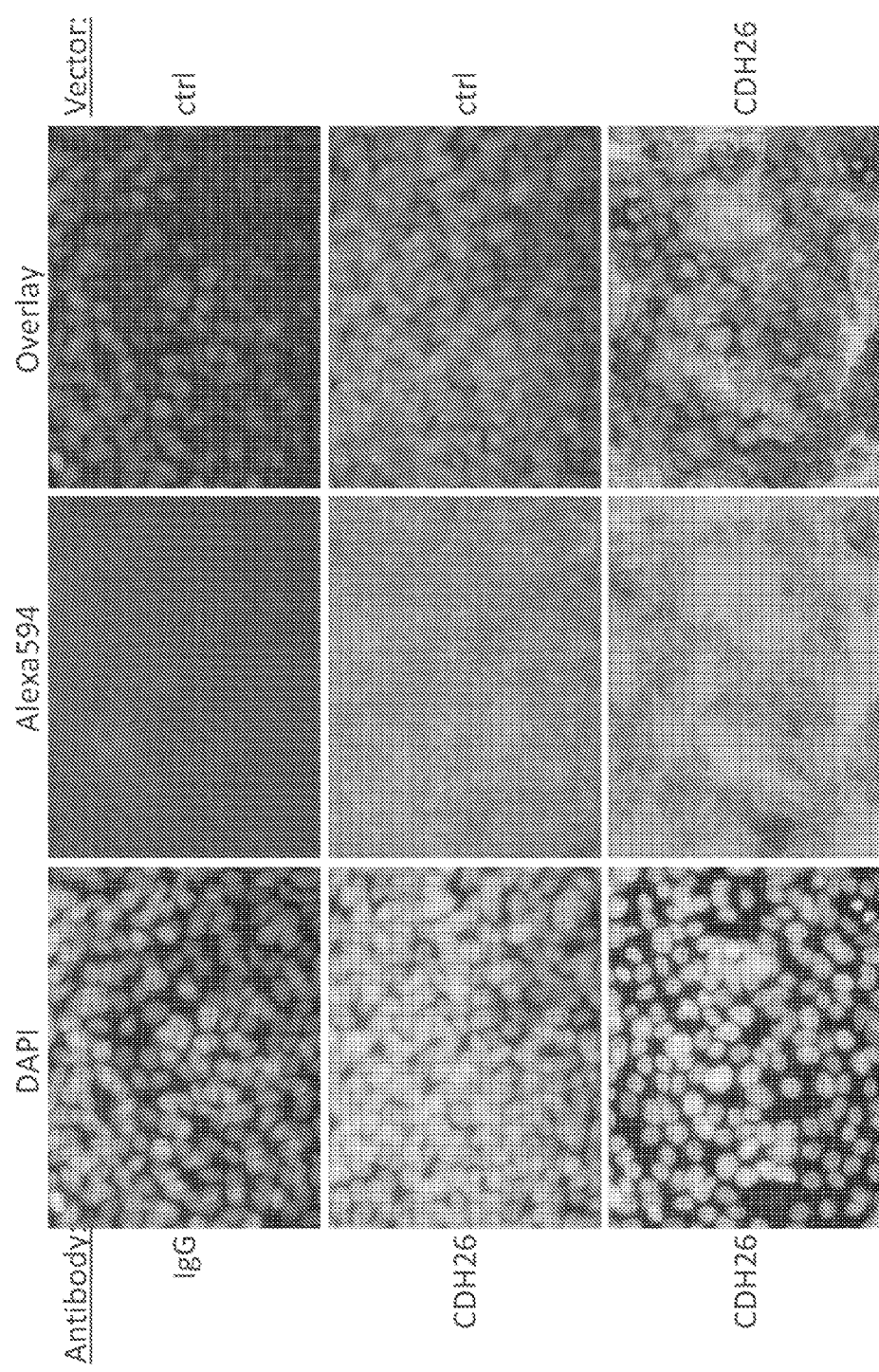


Figure 8D

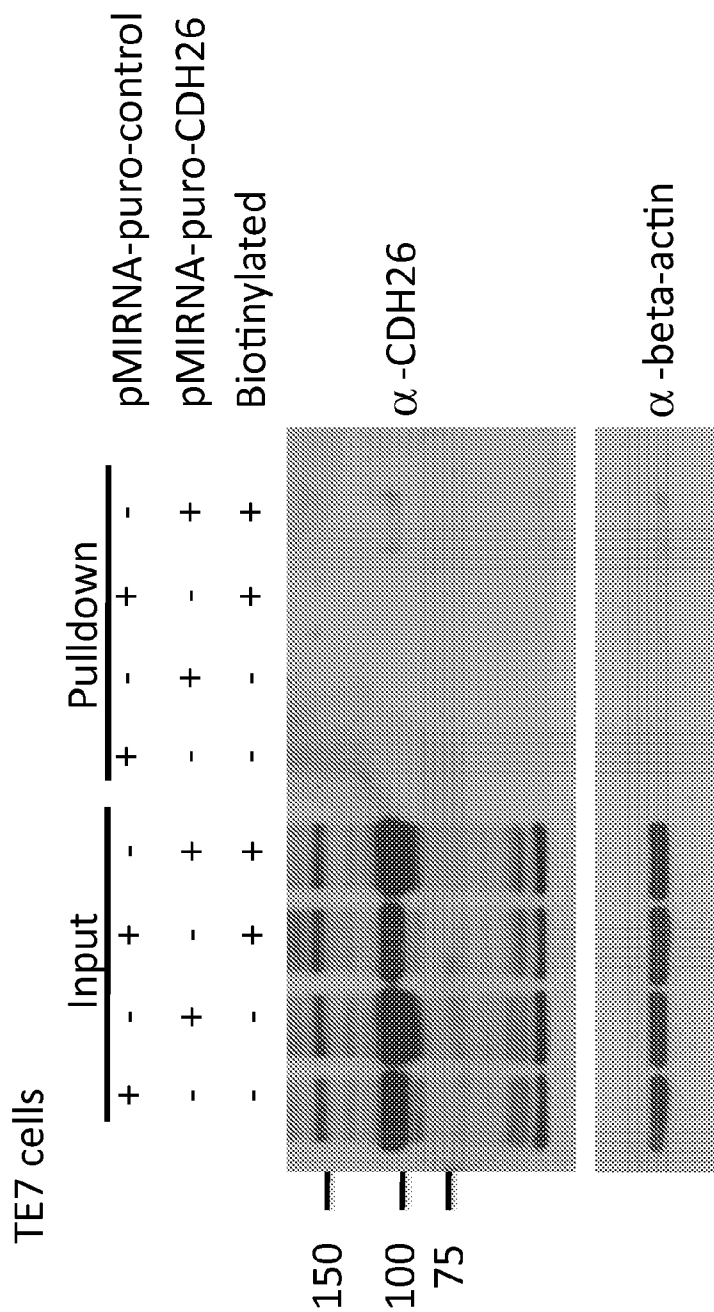


Figure 8E

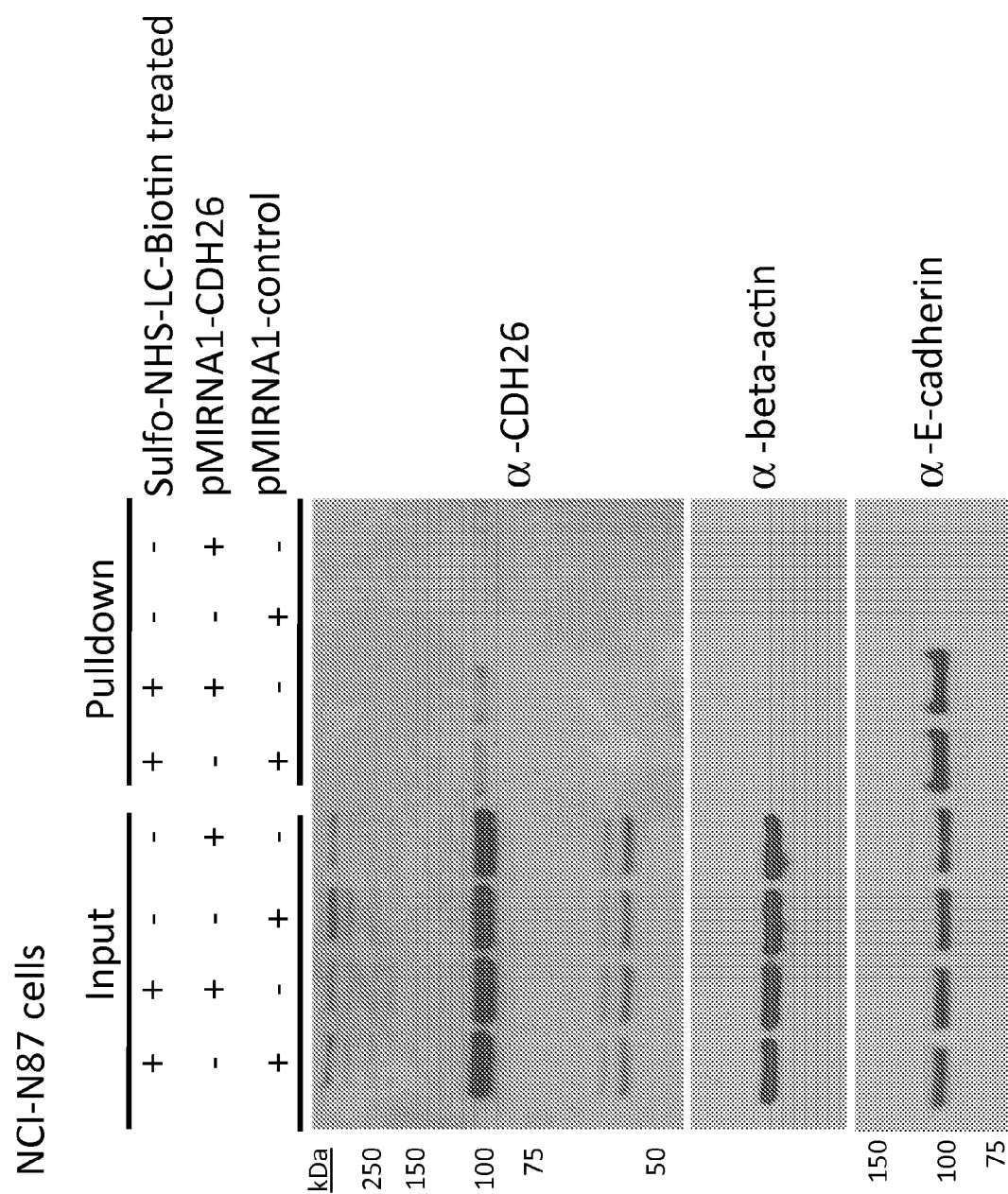


Figure 8F

Figure 9A

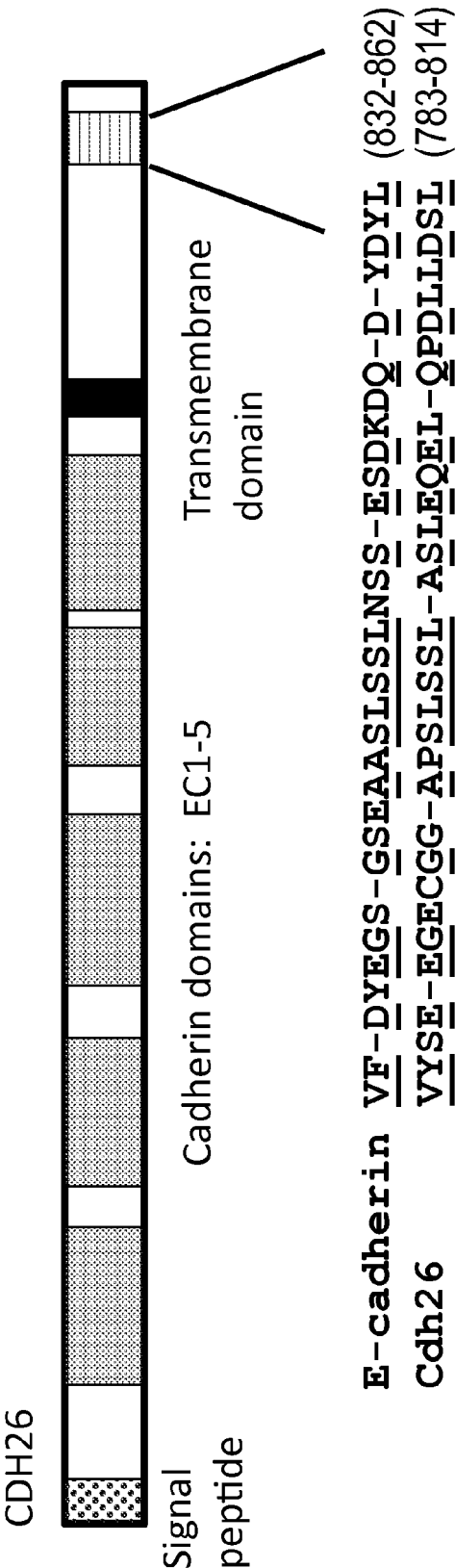


Figure 9C

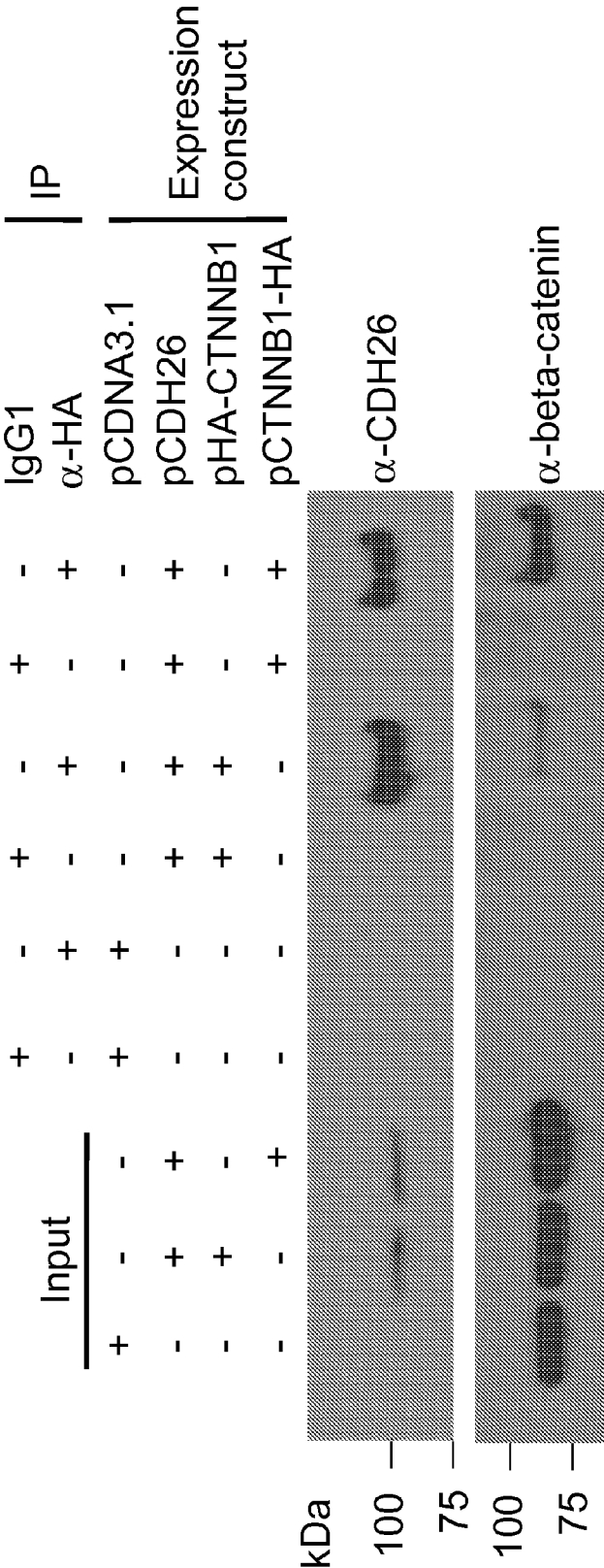
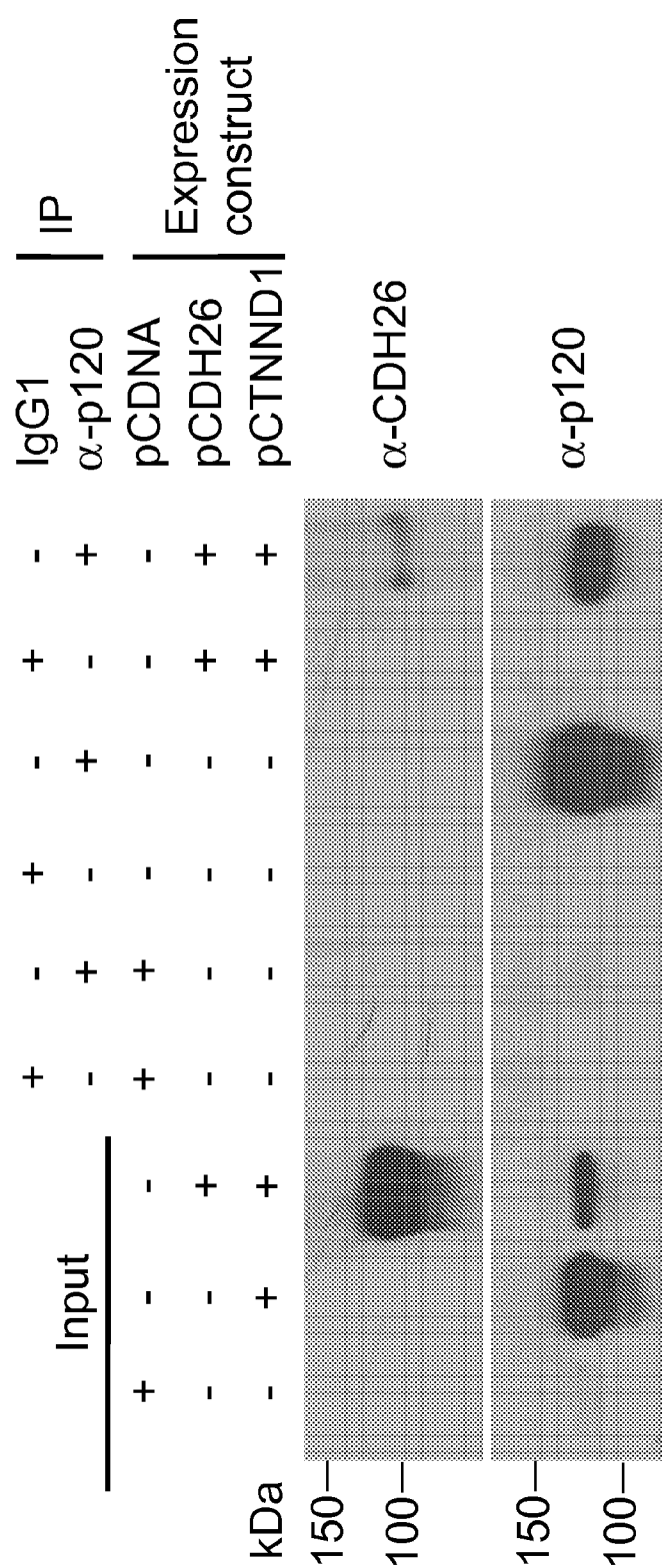


Figure 9D



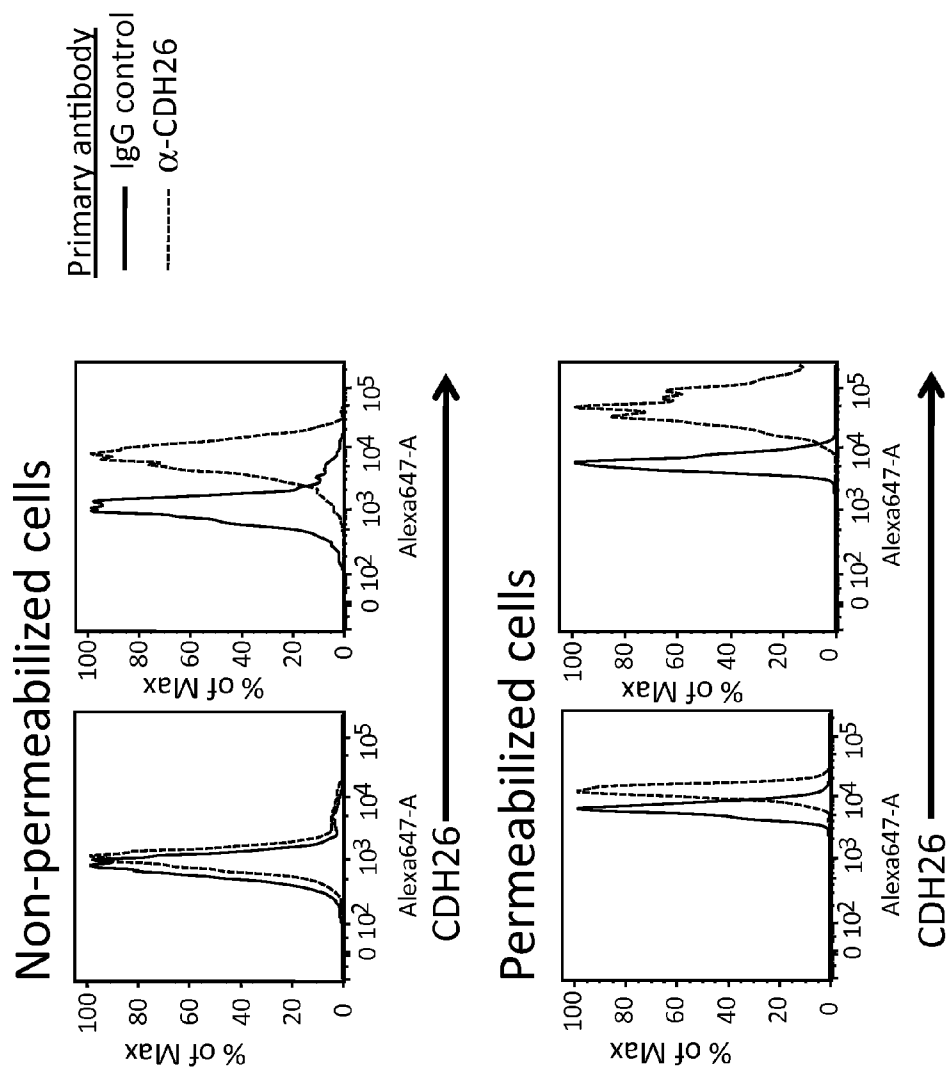


Figure 10B

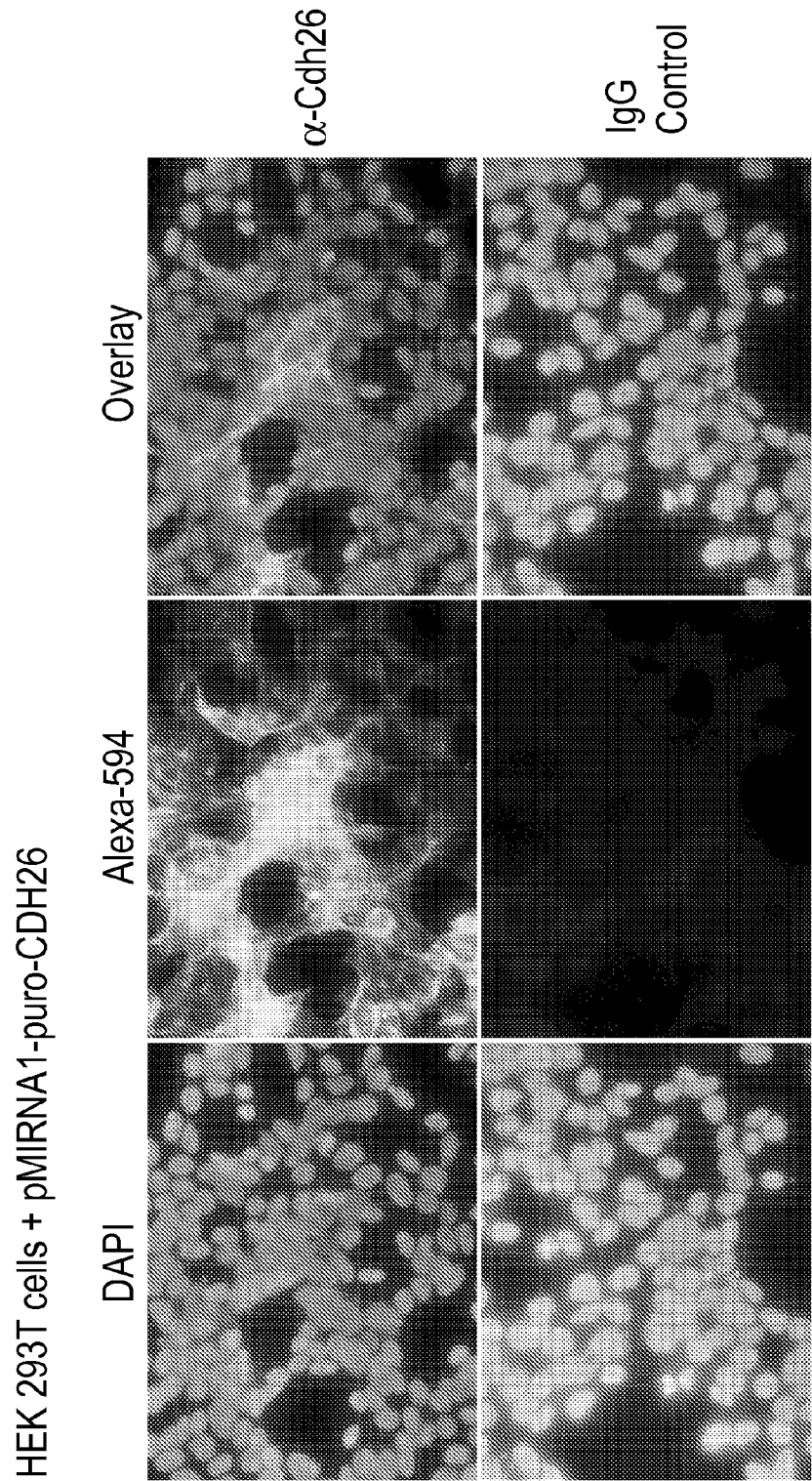


Figure 10C

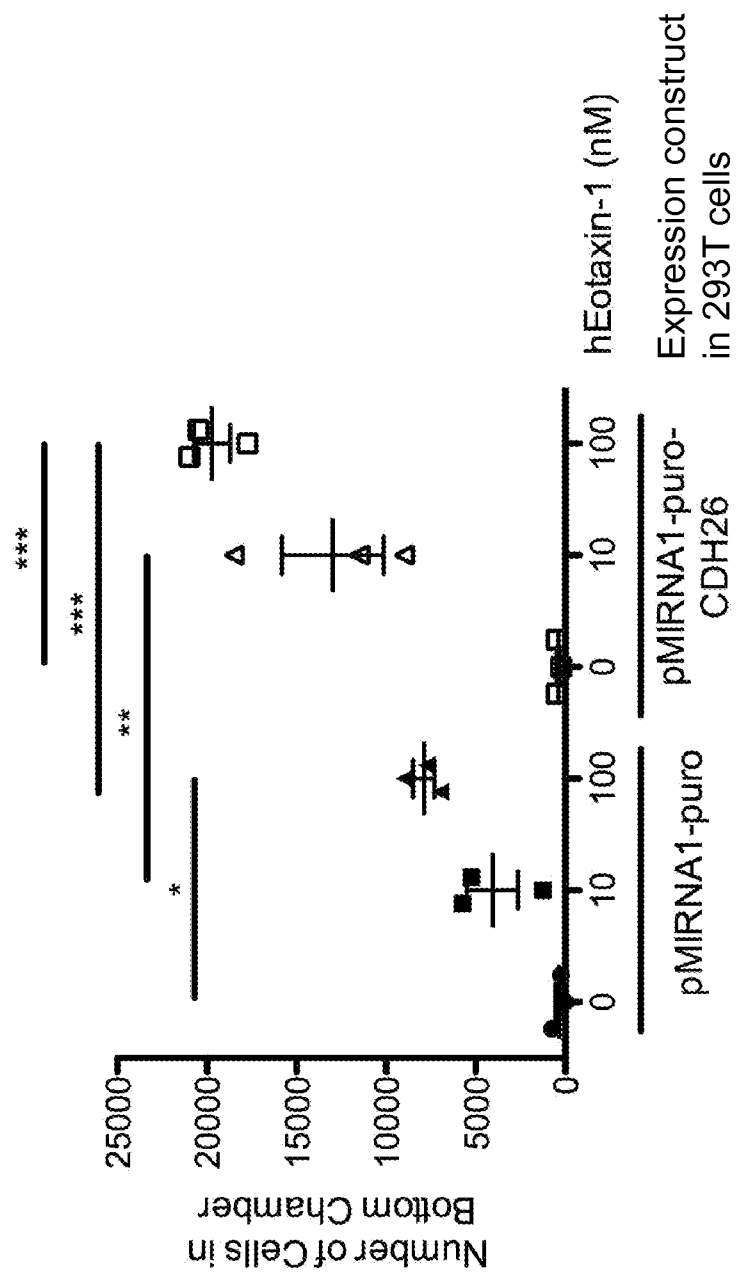


Figure 11

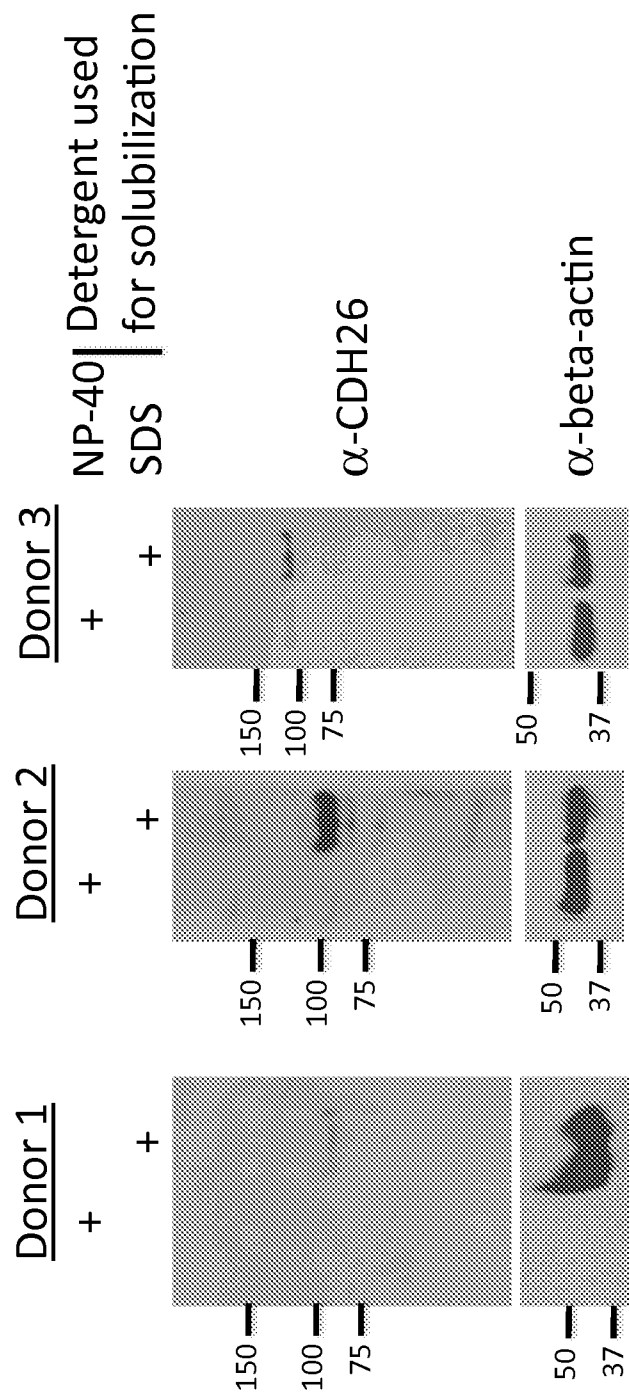


Figure 12

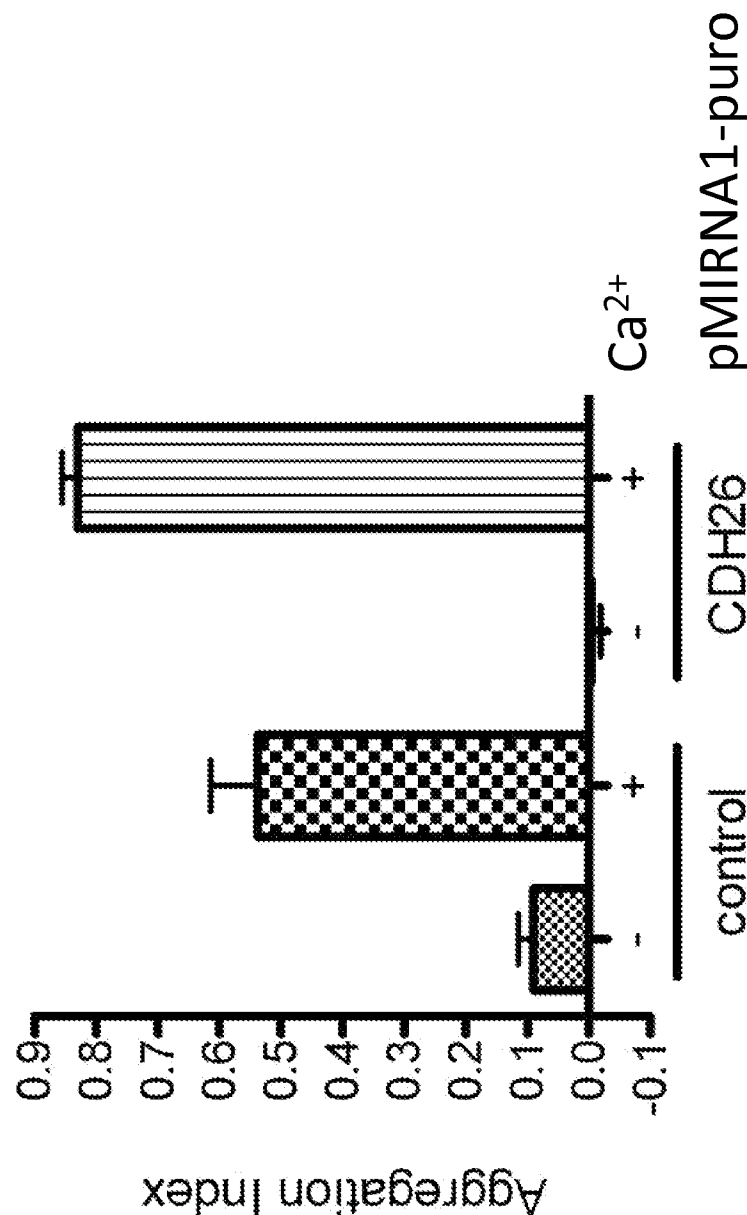


Figure 13A

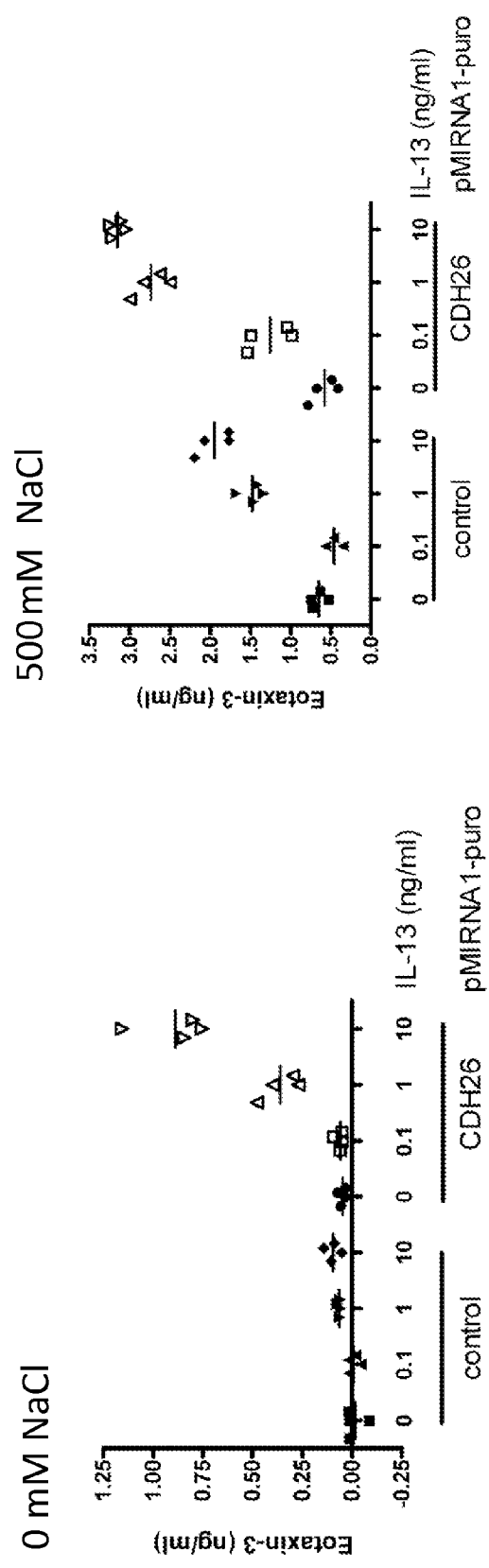


Figure 13B

aaaaaaaaagctattttggagaattgaaaataattcatggaagggaatcactattcagggaattttcccttgctcttctttccctccttaaa
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caaaaccaca**agttacacttctt**^{GAIT 2}**aaaatttgattt**^{GAIT 3}**gtcatattttctagagaaacttgaatttaattgtgtattcttagcttcactggcagc**
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t
ttgaaaacgtta

Figure 14A

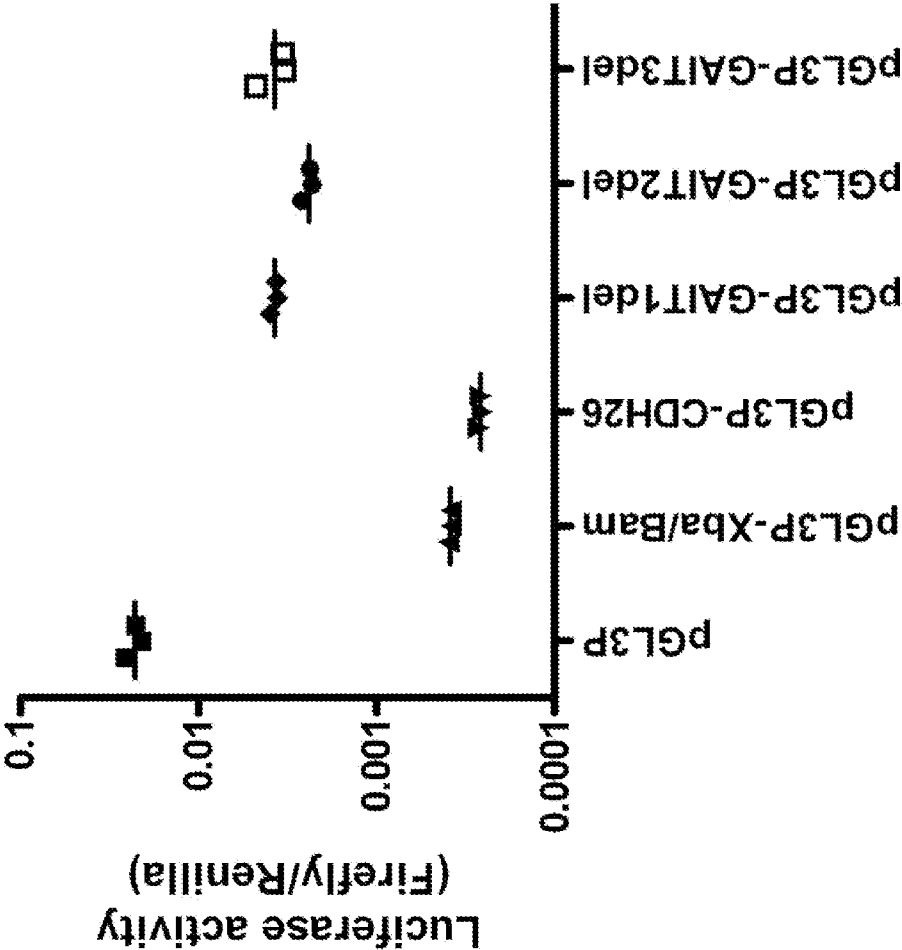


Figure 14B

MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC PANEL OF EOSINOPHILIC GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] The present application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/500,508, MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC PANEL OF EOSINOPHILIC GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS, filed on Jun. 23, 2011, which is currently co-pending herewith and which is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY-SPONSORED RESEARCH

[0002] This invention was made with U.S. Government support on behalf of National Institute of Health (NIH) Grant Nos. R01 DK76893 and U19 AI070235. The U.S. Government has certain rights in this invention.

SEQUENCE LISTING

[0003] The instant application contains a Sequence Listing which has been submitted in ASCII format via EFS-Web and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Said ASCII copy, created on Jun. 25, 2012, is named 88544023.txt and is 81,136 bytes in size.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The invention disclosed herein generally relates to methods and compositions for diagnosis and treatment of an eosinophilic gastritis (EG) disease state in a subject.

BACKGROUND

[0005] Eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGIDs) constitute a diverse spectrum of disorders that affect one or more parts of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and are characterized by increased numbers of eosinophils in one or more parts of the wall of the affected GI segment(s) (Rothenberg, M. J. *Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 113:11-28 (2004); Talley, N. et al. *Gut* 31:54-8 (1990)). EGIDs include eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE, also referred to as EE in some publications), eosinophilic gastritis (EG), eosinophilic duodenitis (ED), eosinophilic jejunitis (EJ), eosinophilic ileitis (EI), and eosinophilic colitis (EC).

[0006] The EGID that has been studied the most is EoE, partly because the diagnosis is made with increasing frequency (Furuta, G. et al. *Gastroenterology* 133:1342-63 (2007)). Other EGIDs, such as EG, have been less well-studied than EoE, and diagnostic criteria are less well-established than for EoE. EG and EoE represent diseases characterized by accumulation of eosinophils in the stomach or esophagus, respectively.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] Methods and compositions described herein are provided by way of example and should not in any way limit the scope of the invention.

[0008] Embodiments of the invention encompass methods of determining an eosinophilic gastritis (EG) status in a subject, including: applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that includes at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10, to obtain a result; analyzing the

result to determine a level of expression of the at least one marker or gene; and determining the EG status of the subject based upon the level of expression. In some embodiments of the methods, the status includes a diagnosis of EG.

[0009] In some embodiments of the methods, the at least one marker or gene can be mRNA. In some embodiments, the at least one marker or gene can be protein. In some embodiments, the subject can be a human patient.

[0010] In some embodiments, the sample can be a tissue, an exudate, saliva, serum, plasma, blood, oral, urine, stool, or a buccal sample. In some embodiments, the sample can be a tissue sample. In some embodiments, the tissue sample can be a gastric tissue sample.

[0011] In some embodiments of the methods, the determining step includes analyzing a subset of the markers or genes in Table 9 and/or Table 10 using at least one algorithm. In some embodiments, a subset of 76 markers or genes from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10, can be analyzed. In some embodiments, a subset of 28 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10 can be analyzed. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least two markers or genes selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10. In some embodiments, the at least one marker or gene includes CDH26.

[0012] In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 10 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 20 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 30 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 60 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 90 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes at least 100 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the panel includes all of the markers or genes listed in Tables 9 and 10.

[0013] In some embodiments, the methods further include detecting, from the patient sample, a level of eotaxin-3 mRNA expression or eotaxin-3 protein.

[0014] In some embodiments, the status includes distinguishing EG from a normal condition in the subject.

[0015] In some embodiments, the status includes distinguishing EG from at least one other eosinophilic disorder in the subject. In some embodiments, the at least one other eosinophilic disorder can be eosinophilic esophagitis.

[0016] In some embodiments, the status includes distinguishing eosinophilic gastritis from at least one other inflammatory gastrointestinal disorder in the subject. In some embodiments, the at least one other inflammatory gastrointestinal disorder can be inflammatory bowel disease, *H. pylori* gastritis, or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug-induced gastritis.

[0017] Some embodiments of the methods further include developing or modifying a therapy for the subject based upon the results of the diagnostic panel analysis. Some embodiments further include exposure of the subject to a specific therapy. In some embodiments, the specific therapy includes targeting at least one molecule involved in EG disease pathogenesis, and/or at least one downstream gene affected by the same. In some embodiments, the at least one molecule involved in EG disease pathogenesis, and/or at least one downstream gene affected by the same, can be CDH26.

[0018] In some embodiments, the specific therapy includes an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic. In some embodiments, the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic includes at least one of a compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity includes a CDH26-Fc fusion protein, a CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotide, a CDH26-directed miRNA, a CDH26-directed shRNA, or a CDH26-directed humanized antibody. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity can be one that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR).

[0019] In some embodiments, the sample can be an archival sample. In some embodiments, the archival sample can be a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) sample.

[0020] Some embodiments of the invention further include characterizing a molecular EG profile of the subject based upon expression of the at least one marker and determining compliance with medical management based upon the profile.

[0021] Some embodiments of the invention further include determining and/or monitoring exposure to one or more therapeutic compounds in the subject based upon the level of expression.

[0022] Some embodiments of the invention further include making a determination as to the pathological development of EG in the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers.

[0023] Some embodiments of the invention further include providing personal prognostic medicine guidance to the subject based upon a determination as to the pathological development of EG in the subject, based upon the expression levels of the markers.

[0024] Some embodiments of the invention further include determining the specific genes engaged by a therapeutic, wherein the therapeutic can be administered to the subject, and a sample from the subject following therapeutic administration can be subjected to the same diagnostic panel in order to obtain a result, wherein differences between the two results determine the specific genes engaged by the administered therapeutic. In some embodiments, the results can be analyzed by comparison with normal and EG cohorts to identify genes that can be up- or down-regulated in response to environmental factors.

[0025] Embodiments of the invention also encompass EG molecular diagnostic panels including at least two genes or markers selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10. Some embodiments relate to an EG molecular diagnostic panel includes at least two genes or markers selected from Table 9. Some embodiments relate to an EG molecular diagnostic panel including at least two genes or markers selected from Table 10. Some embodiments relate to an EG molecular diagnostic panel including CDH26. Some embodiments relate to an EG molecular diagnostic panel including all of the genes or markers in Table 9 and Table 10. In some embodiments, the invention encompasses an EoE molecular diagnostic panel including eotaxin-3 mRNA and at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

[0026] Embodiments of the invention also encompass kits for the detection of a level of one or more genes associated with EG, including: one or more oligonucleotide probes complementary to subsequences of said one or more markers or genes, wherein the one or more markers or genes can be

selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10. In some embodiments, the one or more probes can be used in at least one of a gene chip, an expression array-based protocol, a PCR protocol, or an RNA level-based protocol.

[0027] Embodiments of the invention also encompass methods of determining an allergic inflammation status in a subject, including: applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel including the CDH26 marker or gene, to obtain a result; analyzing the result to determine a level of expression of CDH26; and determining the allergic inflammation status of the subject based upon the level of expression. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel further includes at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

[0028] Embodiments of the invention also encompass methods of treating an allergic inflammatory condition in a subject in need thereof, including: identifying a subject with an allergic inflammatory condition; and administering to the subject an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic, wherein administration of the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic results in treatment of the allergic inflammatory condition.

[0029] In some embodiments, the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic includes at least one compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity includes at least one of a CDH26-Fc fusion protein, a CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotide, a CDH26-directed miRNA, a CDH26-directed shRNA, or a CDH26-directed humanized antibody. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity can be one that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0030] Those of skill in the art will understand that the drawings, described below, are for illustrative purposes only. The drawings are not intended to limit the scope of the present teachings in any way.

[0031] FIGS. 1A-C depict results demonstrating that the gastric tissue of patients with eosinophilic gastritis (EG) displays marked eosinophilic inflammation that correlates with peripheral blood eosinophil counts. FIG. 1A depicts hematoxylin and eosin-stained gastric antrum biopsy specimens. FIG. 1B depicts the peak eosinophil count for the gastric tissue obtained at the index endoscopy for all patients. FIG. 1C depicts the peak eosinophil count for the gastric tissue obtained at the index endoscopy for patients with active EG.

[0032] FIG. 2 depicts the quantification and correlation of tryptase- and IL-13-expressing cells in inflamed gastric tissue.

[0033] FIGS. 3A-B depict identification of transcripts differentially regulated in the gastric tissue of patients with EG. FIG. 3A depicts the relative gene expression microarray analysis of RNA isolated from the gastric antrum tissue of control patients or patients with active EG. FIG. 3B depicts eotaxin-3 gene expression in gastric tissue.

[0034] FIGS. 4A-E depict identification of transcripts differentially regulated in the gastric tissue of patients with EG. FIG. 4A depicts cadherin family member expression levels in inflamed gastric tissue. FIG. 4B depicts cadherin family member expression levels in inflamed esophageal tissue. FIG. 4C depicts CDH26 transcript levels in gastric antrum tissue as determined by microarray analysis. FIG. 4D depicts CDH26

and GAPDH transcript levels using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of the same population of patients used in the microarray study. FIG. 4E depicts relative CDH26 levels from a replication cohort of patients.

[0035] FIGS. 5A-D depict CDH26 localization in inflamed gastric tissue of patients with EG. Gastric antrum biopsy specimens obtained at the index endoscopy each of the original patient cohort were subjected to immunohistochemical staining for CDH26. FIG. 5A depicts representative normal and EG biopsy specimens. FIG. 5B depicts high magnification of gastric antrum tissue derived from a patient with active EG stained for CDH26. FIG. 5C depicts quantification of the intensity and prevalence of CDH26-positive cells. FIG. 5D depicts CDH26 protein levels in gastric antrum.

[0036] FIGS. 6A-B depict an analysis of cytokine transcript levels in gastric tissue. FIG. 6A depicts cytokine gene expression in the gastric antrum tissue of the same population of patients used in the microarray study. FIG. 6B depicts cytokine gene expression in the gastric antrum tissue of the population of patients used in the replication cohort.

[0037] FIGS. 7A-D depict the increased CDH26 transcript and protein levels in the esophageal tissue of patients with EoE. FIG. 7A depicts CDH26 transcript from the esophageal tissue of either normal patients or patients with EoE. FIG. 7B depicts CDH26 transcript levels from the esophageal tissue of patients obtained during the index endoscopy from which the gastric specimens were obtained. FIG. 7C depicts CDH26 protein expression and localization in esophageal tissue. FIG. 7D depicts CDH26 and beta-actin (top) and their ratio (bottom) from total protein lysates prepared from esophageal biopsy specimens from an independent cohort of patients who either had active EoE or no history of EGID.

[0038] FIGS. 8A-F depict the increased CDH26 mRNA levels in esophageal and gastric epithelial cells stimulated with IL-13 and the localization of CDH26 expression in esophageal and gastric epithelial cells. FIG. 8A depicts primary esophageal epithelial cells were cultured from distal esophageal biopsy specimens. FIG. 8B depicts TE-7 cells after being treated with IL-13. FIG. 8C depicts NCI-N87 cells after being treated with IL-13. FIG. 8D depicts TE-7 cells that were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26. FIG. 8E depicts surface biotinylation of TE-7 cells. FIG. 8F depicts surface biotinylation of NCI-N87 cells.

[0039] FIGS. 9A-F depict the biochemical characterization of CDH26 and investigation of CDH26 protein-protein interactions. FIG. 9A depicts western blot analysis after transiently transfecting HEK 293T cells with the indicated construct(s). FIG. 9B depicts the western blot analysis following post-translational modification of CDH26. FIG. 9C depicts the similarity between the beta-catenin binding domain of CDH1 (E-cadherin) and the corresponding domain of CDH26. FIG. 9D depicts western blot analysis after transiently transfecting HEK 293T cells with the indicated construct(s). FIG. 9E depicts western blot analysis after transiently transfecting HEK 293T cells with the indicated construct(s). FIG. 9F depicts western blot analysis after transiently transfecting HEK 293T cells with the indicated construct(s).

[0040] FIGS. 10A-C depict characterization of CDH26 localization in HEK 293T cells transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or pMIRNA1-puro-CDH26. FIG. 10A depicts western blot analysis for CDH26 and beta-actin for cells that were treated with sulfo-NHS-LC-biotin to biotinylate surface proteins. FIG. 10B depicts FACS analysis of

cells stained with either anti-CDH26 or an equivalent amount of IgG control antibody. FIG. 10C depicts immunofluorescence microscopy of cells stained with either anti-CDH26 or an equivalent amount of IgG control antibody.

[0041] FIG. 11 depicts the impact of CDH26 on eotaxin-1-mediated eosinophil transmigration through a cell monolayer.

[0042] FIG. 12 depicts CDH26 protein expression by eosinophils.

[0043] FIGS. 13A-B depict results of CDH26 cell surface overexpression. FIG. 13A depicts results showing that CDH26 overexpression increases HEK 293T cell adhesion. FIG. 13B depicts results demonstrating that TE-7 cells that overexpress CDH26 exhibit increased secretion of eotaxin-3 after stimulation with IL-13 compared to control cells.

[0044] FIGS. 14A-B depict the CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR) sequence and show that deletion of particular sequences within this 3' UTR result in increased protein expression. FIG. 14A depicts the CDH26 3' UTR sequence. FIG. 14B depicts the ratio of Firefly to *Renilla* luciferase for each sample.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0045] All references cited herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety. Also incorporated herein by reference in their entirety include: U.S. Patent Application No. 60/633,909, EOTAXIN-3 IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Dec. 27, 2004; U.S. Pat. No. 8,030,003, DIAGNOSIS OF EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS BASED ON PRESENCE OF AN ELEVATED LEVEL OF EOTAXIN-3, issued Oct. 4, 2011 and filed as U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/721,127 on Jun. 7, 2007; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/492,456, EVALUATION OF EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jun. 26, 2009; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/628,992, IL-13 INDUCED GENE SIGNATURE FOR EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Dec. 1, 2009; U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/430,453, A STRIKING LOCAL ESOPHAGEAL CYTOKINE EXPRESSION PROFILE IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jan. 6, 2011; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/051,873, METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR MITIGATING EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS BY MODULATING LEVELS AND ACTIVITY OF EOTAXIN-3, filed on Mar. 18, 2011; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/132,884, DETERMINATION OF EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jun. 3, 2011; U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/497,796, NEGATIVE REGULATION OF EOSINOPHIL PRODUCTION BY TOLL-LIKE RECEPTORS, filed on Jun. 16, 2011; U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/571,115, DIAGNOSTIC METHODS OF EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jun. 21, 2011; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/132,295, METHODS OF DETERMINING EFFICACY OF GLUCOCORTICOID TREATMENT OF EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Aug. 22, 2011; PCT Patent Application No. US2012/020556, ESOPHAGEAL CYTOKINE EXPRESSION PROFILES IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jan. 6, 2012; U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/602,897, ESOPHAGEAL MICRORNA EXPRESSION PROFILES IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Feb. 24, 2012; PCT Patent Application No. TBD, BLOCKAGE OF EOSINOPHIL PRODUCTION BY TOLL-LIKE RECEPTORS, filed on Jun. 18, 2012; and PCT Patent Application No. TBD,

DIAGNOSTIC METHODS FOR EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, filed on Jun. 21, 2012.

[0046] Unless otherwise noted, terms are to be understood according to conventional usage by those of ordinary skill in the relevant art.

[0047] As used herein, the term “sample” encompasses a sample obtained from a subject or patient. The sample can be of any biological tissue or fluid. Such samples include, but are not limited to, sputum, saliva, buccal sample, oral sample, blood, serum, plasma, blood cells (e.g., white cells), circulating cells (e.g., stem cells or endothelial cells in the blood), tissue, core or fine needle biopsy samples, cell-containing body fluids, free floating nucleic acids, urine, stool, peritoneal fluid, and pleural fluid, liquor cerebrospinalis, tear fluid, or cells therefrom, and the like. Samples can also include sections of tissues such as frozen or fixed sections taken for histological purposes or microdissected cells or extracellular parts thereof. A sample to be analyzed is tissue material from a gastric tissue biopsy obtained by aspiration or punctation, excision or by any other surgical method leading to biopsy or resected cellular material. Such a sample can comprise cells obtained from a subject or patient. In some embodiments, the sample is a body fluid that include, for example, blood fluids, serum, plasma, lymph, ascitic fluids, gynecological fluids, or urine but not limited to these fluids. In some embodiments, the sample can be a non-invasive sample, such as, for example, a saline swish, a buccal scrape, a buccal swab, and the like.

[0048] As used herein, the term “assessing” includes any form of measurement, and includes determining if an element is present or not. The terms “determining,” “measuring,” “evaluating,” “assessing” and “assaying” can be used interchangeably and can include quantitative and/or qualitative determinations.

[0049] As used herein, the term “modulated” or “modulation,” or “regulated” or “regulation” and “differentially regulated” refers to both upregulation (i.e., activation or stimulation, e.g., by agonizing or potentiating) and down regulation (i.e., inhibition or suppression, e.g., by antagonizing, decreasing or inhibiting).

[0050] As used herein, the term “diagnosing or monitoring” with reference to eosinophilic gastritis (EG) refers to a method or process of determining if a subject has or does not have EG, or determining the severity or degree of EG, or determining the remission status of EG.

[0051] As used herein, the term “subject” refers to any member of the animal kingdom. In some embodiments, a subject is a human patient.

[0052] As used herein, the terms “treatment,” “treating,” “treat,” and the like, refer to obtaining a desired pharmacologic and/or physiologic effect. The effect can be prophylactic in terms of completely or partially preventing a disease or symptom thereof and/or can be therapeutic in terms of a partial or complete cure for a disease and/or adverse effect attributable to the disease. “Treatment,” as used herein, covers any treatment of a disease in a subject, particularly in a human, and includes: (a) preventing the disease from occurring in a subject which may be predisposed to the disease but has not yet been diagnosed as having it; (b) inhibiting the disease, i.e., arresting its development; and (c) relieving the disease, i.e., causing regression of the disease and/or relieving one or more disease symptoms. “Treatment” can also encompass delivery of an agent or administration of a therapy in

order to provide for a pharmacologic effect, even in the absence of a disease or condition.

[0053] As used herein, the term “transcriptome” refers to the set of all messenger RNA (mRNA) molecules, or “transcripts,” produced in one or a population of cells. This term can also include non-translated RNAs which affect cellular characteristics because of gene regulation functions (silencing or activation or stabilization or degradation of other genes and transcripts). The term can be applied to the total set of transcripts in a given organism, or to the specific subset of transcripts present in a particular cell type. Unlike the genome, which is roughly fixed for a given cell line (excluding mutations), the transcriptome can vary with external environmental conditions. Because it includes all RNA transcripts in the cell, the transcriptome reflects the genes that are being actively expressed at any given time, with the exception of mRNA degradation phenomena such as transcriptional attenuation. It also includes posttranscriptional events such as alternative splicing.

[0054] As used herein, the term “expression levels” refers, for example, to a determined level of gene expression. The term “pattern of expression levels” refers to a determined level of gene expression compared either to a reference gene (e.g. a housekeeping gene or inversely regulated genes) or to a computed average expression value (e.g. in DNA-chip analyses). A pattern is not limited to the comparison of two genes but is more related to multiple comparisons of genes to reference genes or samples. A certain “pattern of expression levels” can also result and be determined by comparison and measurement of several genes as disclosed herein and display the relative abundance of these transcripts to each other.

[0055] As used herein, a “reference pattern of expression levels” refers to any pattern of expression levels that can be used for the comparison to another pattern of expression levels. In some embodiments of the invention, a reference pattern of expression levels is, for example, an average pattern of expression levels observed in a group of healthy or diseased individuals, serving as a reference group.

[0056] As used herein, the term “marker” or “biomarker” refers to a biological molecule, such as, for example, a nucleic acid, peptide, protein, hormone, and the like, whose presence or concentration can be detected and correlated with a known condition, such as a disease state. It can also be used to refer to a differentially expressed gene whose expression pattern can be utilized as part of a predictive, prognostic or diagnostic process in healthy conditions or a disease state, or which, alternatively, can be used in methods for identifying a useful treatment or prevention therapy.

[0057] As used herein, an “eosinophilic disorder”, or “eosinophilia-associated condition”, or “eosinophilia-associated disease” can refer to any condition that features an enhanced level of eosinophils or their activation state or a disease with clinical or pathological features caused by eosinophils, at least in part. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, eosinophil-associated gastrointestinal disorder, eosinophilic esophagitis, eosinophilic gastritis, eosinophilic gastroenteritis, eosinophilic colitis, eosinophilic jejunitis, eosinophilic duodenitis, eosinophilic pneumonia, eosinophilic fasciitis, eosinophilic cellulitis, eosinophilic vasculitis, eosinophilic myositis, allergies, asthma, atopic dermatitis, nasal polypsis, allergic rhinitis, drug eruption, drug hypersensitivity, eosinophilic cystitis, interstitial cystitis, bullous pemphigoid, bullous vegetans, primary immunodeficiency, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), infection such as inva-

sive *aspergillus fumigatus*, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis, eosinophilic leukemia, Churg-Strauss syndrome, and hypereosinophilic syndrome, and the like.

[0058] As used herein, an “inflammatory gastrointestinal disorder” can refer to any condition that features a level of inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract, with or without the presence of eosinophils. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), *H. pylori* gastritis, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) gastritis, acute gastritis, alcohol-induced gastritis, peptic ulcer disease, and the like.

[0059] As used herein, an “allergic inflammatory condition” or “allergic inflammatory disorder” can refer to any condition that features eosinophil and/or mast cell-associated inflammation, allergen-induced gastrointestinal inflammation, and/or symptoms associated therewith. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, eosinophilic disorders, inflammatory gastrointestinal disorders, food-protein gastroenteritis, and the like.

[0060] Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) has a unique transcriptome identified in gene microarray studies of esophageal biopsies from affected patients (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 118:1054-9 (2006)). The most upregulated gene in EoE is eotaxin-3, a cytokine that attracts eosinophils into tissue. Eotaxin-3 is expressed by esophageal epithelial cells in EoE in vivo and in vitro, and the T helper (T_H2) cytokine interleukin-13 (IL-13) is markedly increased in EoE biopsies and induces esophageal epithelial cells cultured from EoE to increase eotaxin-3 expression (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 118:1054-9 (2006); Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Immunol.* 184:4033-41 (2010)).

[0061] While EoE has been described considerably, other forms of eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGIDs), such as eosinophilic gastritis (EG), are less well understood, with poorly defined diagnostic criteria. As described herein, biopsies from EG patients were studied using a variety of methods in order to increase knowledge of the genetic and molecular abnormalities in EG. Global transcript analysis was performed to identify genes differentially expressed in the gastric tissue of patients with active EG compared to control individuals. Further characterization of the gene and protein expression patterns of cadherin-like 26 (CDH26), a heretofore undescribed cadherin that seems to be specific for allergic inflammation, was undertaken through real-time PCR, immunohistochemistry, and western blot analysis, as CDH26 was found to be a gene product markedly overexpressed in EGID tissue. CDH26 protein interactions were examined using transient transfection and immunoprecipitation analysis.

[0062] As described herein, gastric tissue of patients with EG was found to exhibit a conserved pattern of gene expression. A conserved set of 28 genes were found to be up-regulated and 76 found to be down-regulated in gastric tissue of patients with active EG compared to control patients. Of these genes, only 11 overlapped with those previously identified as being dysregulated in the esophageal tissue of patients with EoE, including CDH26, which represented the most highly overexpressed gene in EG biopsies (20.9-fold, $p < 0.01$). Epithelial cells exhibited increased CDH26 protein expression in both esophageal and gastric tissue of patients with active EoE or EG, respectively. Similar to EoE, IL-13 transcript levels were highly increased in the gastric tissue of patients with active EG (375-fold, $p < 0.01$). IL-13 was found to induce CDH26 expression in primary esophageal epithelial

cells, TE-7 esophageal epithelial cells, and NCI-N87 gastric cells in vitro. CDH26, an uncharacterized member of the cadherin superfamily of proteins, exhibited homotypic interaction and additionally interacted with beta-catenin, alpha-catenin, and p120/delta-catenin when expressed ectopically in HEK 293T cells.

[0063] The results presented herein define a molecular signature in the gastric tissue of patients with EG and demonstrate EG inflammation mechanisms by identifying a signature of genes commonly dysregulated in the gastric tissue of EG patients, thereby elucidating the molecular pathways that underly the pathogenesis of this disease. These findings provide a set of genes that can be used for the molecular diagnosis of EG. Because stomach biopsies are routinely obtained with esophageal biopsies during upper endoscopy, the EG diagnostic panel described herein can be combined with existing esophageal diagnostic panels to provide a powerful diagnostic tool for eosinophilic conditions. The EG diagnostic panel, or at least one marker or gene from Table 9 and/or Table 10 or a subset of markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10, can be used alone or can be enhanced by combination with determination of eotaxin-3 mRNA expression levels or eotaxin-3 protein.

[0064] In addition, the expression pattern and function of CDH26, a gene product markedly overexpressed in EGID tissue, has been determined for EG and EoE. CDH26 transcripts and protein are highly upregulated in both the esophageal tissue of patients with active EoE and the gastric tissue of patients with active EG. CDH26 was found to have the functional activity of modifying eosinophil chemoattraction. Furthermore, CDH26 was found to have the functional activity of modifying cell adhesion. Additionally, CDH26 was found to have the functional activity of modifying the effects of IL-13 on epithelial cells.

[0065] IL-13 transcript levels were found to be significantly increased in the gastric tissue of patients with active EG, and CDH26 was found to be regulated in part by IL-13 in esophageal and gastric epithelial cells. Furthermore, CDH26 molecules were further found to exhibit homotypic interaction and form complexes containing catenin proteins, such as beta-catenin, alpha-catenin, and p120, similar to other molecules in the cadherin family of proteins; the catenin proteins link cadherin molecules to the actin cytoskeleton. These findings demonstrate the function of CDH26 in cell adhesion. In addition, eosinophil transmigration through monolayers of HEK 293T cells overexpressing CDH26 is increased compared to transmigration through control cells. As such, CDH26 was found to be a major cadherin that is regulated by IL-13, which is a T_H2 - and allergy-promoting cytokine, and is found to be expressed in allergic GI tissue and with a key role in various aspects of allergic disease pathogenesis and diagnosis.

[0066] CDH26 is therefore involved with allergic inflammation in general, including EGIDs, inflammatory GI disorders, and other allergic diseases. Accordingly, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics can be used to treat allergic diseases.

[0067] Accordingly, embodiments of the invention are directed to methods of diagnosing EG in a subject, wherein the methods comprise applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers.

[0068] Embodiments of the invention are also directed to methods of distinguishing EG from other disorders in a subject, wherein the methods comprise applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers. In some embodiments, the other disorder is an EGID. For example, some embodiments involve the differentiation of EG from EoE, which should not involve abnormal expression of markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10 in the stomach. In some embodiments, the other disorder is a non-eosinophilic inflammatory GI disorder. For example, some embodiments involve the differentiation of EG from inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or non-eosinophilic gastritis, such as *H. pylori* gastritis or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) gastritis, or the like.

[0069] Embodiments of the invention are also directed to methods of distinguishing EG from other inflammatory GI disorders in a subject, wherein the methods comprise applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers.

[0070] Embodiments of the invention are also directed to methods of monitoring or guiding treatment for a subject suffering from EG, wherein the methods comprise applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers, and developing or modifying a therapy for the subject based upon the results of the diagnostic panel. In some embodiments, the monitoring of treatment includes identifying exposure to a specific therapy. In some embodiments, the specific therapy is one that targets EG molecules, or downstream genes affected by the same.

[0071] Embodiments of the invention also relate to methods of analyzing an archival sample obtained from a subject for indication of EG in the subject, the methods comprising obtaining the archival sample, applying the to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers. In some embodiments, the archival sample is a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) sample.

[0072] Embodiments of the invention also relate to methods of developing or modifying a therapy for a subject in need thereof, the methods comprising applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers, and developing or modifying a therapy for the subject based upon the determination.

[0073] Embodiments of the invention also relate to methods of determining compliance with medical management in a subject undergoing therapy for EG, the methods comprising applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that contains markers selected from Tables 9 and 10, analyzing the results to determine expression levels of the markers, and

making a determination as to the EG status of the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers, and determining compliance with medical management based upon the determination.

[0074] Embodiments of the invention are also directed to kits for the detection of a level of one or more genes associated with EG, comprising one or more oligonucleotide probes complementary to subsequences of said one or more markers or genes, wherein the one or more markers or genes are selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10. In some embodiments, the one or more probes are used in at least one of a gene chip, an expression array-based protocol, a PCR protocol, or an RNA level-based protocol, including, for example, RNA-seq, and the like.

[0075] Embodiments of the invention also relate to methods of determining an allergic inflammation status in a subject, including applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that comprises the CDH26 marker or gene, to obtain a result, analyzing the result to determine a level of expression of CDH26, and determining the allergic inflammation status of the subject based upon the level of expression. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel further comprises at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

[0076] Embodiments of the invention are also directed to methods of treating an allergic inflammatory condition in a subject in need thereof, including identifying a subject with an allergic inflammatory condition, and administering to the subject an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic, wherein administration of the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic results in treatment of the allergic inflammatory condition. In some embodiments, wherein the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic includes compounds or compositions that suppress CDH26 activity. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity includes CDH26-Fc fusion proteins, CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotides, CDH26-directed microRNAs (miRNAs), CDH26-directed short hairpin RNAs (shRNAs), CDH26-directed humanized antibodies, CDH-related peptides, or catenin-based inhibitors. In some embodiments, the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity is one that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR).

[0077] In an exemplary embodiment of the invention, the method disclosed herein can include three steps, which can be finished within 1 working day (6-8 hours with multiple sample capacity). RNA extraction can be performed on a patient gastric biopsy sample. After RNA quantity/quality measurement, RNA from the sample is subjected to reverse transcription (RT) reaction. Next, cDNA corresponding to the reverse-transcribed RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of at least one of the genes, or a subset of the genes or all of the genes, as listed in Tables 9 and 10, as a single or multiplex format using at least one of a variety of gene quantification techniques. The data is analyzed to determine expression levels of the markers or genes as disclosed herein to establish an EG diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report. The EG diagnosis can serve as a basis for a final diagnostic report as well as in assisting selection or modification of an appropriate therapy for the patient.

[0078] In some embodiments, the EG markers or genes are measured using a fluidic card loaded with the EG markers or genes. In some embodiments, the representative EG genes

described herein or a subset of these genes are measured using other methods and/or tools, including for example, but not limited to, Taqman (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif.), Light-Cycler (Roche Applied Science, Penzberg, Germany), ABI fluidic card (Life Technologies), NanoString® (NanoString Technologies, Seattle, Wash.), NANODROP® technology (Thermo Fisher Scientific (Wilmington, Del.), and the like. The person of skill in the art will recognize such other formats and tools, which can be commercially available or which can be developed specifically for such analysis.

[0079] In some embodiments, CDH26, which can be used as a marker or gene for allergic inflammatory conditions, is measured using a fluidic card loaded with the CDH26 marker or gene. In some embodiments, CDH26 can be used alone or in combination with one or more of the representative EG genes described herein or a subset of these genes and can be measured using other methods and/or tools, including for example, but not limited to, Taqman (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif.), Light-Cycler (Roche Applied Science, Penzberg, Germany), ABI fluidic card (Life Technologies), NanoString® (NanoString Technologies, Seattle, Wash.), NANODROP® technology (Thermo Fisher Scientific (Wilmington, Del.), and the like. The person of skill in the art will recognize such other formats and tools, which can be commercially available or which can be developed specifically for such analysis.

EG Diagnostic Genes

[0080] In embodiments of the invention, EG is diagnosed based upon a panel containing markers or genes selected from the representative EG genes listed in Tables 9 and 10.

[0081] In some embodiments the diagnostic panel contains at least one marker or gene selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments the at least one marker or gene includes CDH26. In some embodiments the diagnostic panel contains at least 10 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 20 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 30 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 40 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 50 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 60 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 70 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 80 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 90 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains at least 100 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10.

[0082] In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, or 29 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, or 39 markers or genes selected from Tables

9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, or 49 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, or 59 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, or 69 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, or 79 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, or 89 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, or 99 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments of the invention, the diagnostic panel contains 100, 101, 102, 103, or 104 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10.

[0083] In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains anywhere between 1 to 28 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains anywhere between 1 to 76 markers or genes selected from Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains all of the markers or genes listed in Tables 9 and 10.

Allergic Inflammatory Diagnostic Genes

[0084] In embodiments of the invention, an allergic inflammatory condition is diagnosed based upon expression of the CDH26 marker or gene.

[0085] In some embodiments, diagnosis of an allergic inflammatory condition is based upon a panel containing CDH26 and markers or genes selected from the genes listed in Tables 9 and 10. In some embodiments, the diagnostic panel contains CDH26 and at least one marker or gene selected from Tables 9 and 10.

Anti-CDH-26-Based Therapeutics

[0086] Some embodiments of the invention relate to blocking or suppressing CDH26 activity by administration of an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic, thereby treating an allergic inflammatory condition.

[0087] In some embodiments, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics that can be used in the treatment of allergic inflammatory conditions include for example, but are not limited to, CDH26-Fc fusion proteins, CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotides, CDH26-directed microRNAs (miRNAs), CDH26-directed short hairpin RNAs (shRNAs), CDH26-directed humanized antibodies, CDH-related peptides, catenin-based inhibitors, and the like. In some embodiments, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics that can be used in the treatment of allergic inflammatory conditions include for example, but are not limited to, compounds or compositions that target a binding site and/or protein of at least one GAIT consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' UTR.

[0088] In some embodiments, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics that can be used in the treatment of allergic inflammatory conditions include molecules that are structurally similar to those listed above. Structurally similar compounds are those that are not structurally identical but can have similar CDH26 inhibitory function, though the CDH26 inhibitory function can be substantially increased or decreased. Hereto-

fore unknown anti-CDH26-based therapeutics can be contemplated and designed based on knowledge of a known anti-CDH26-based therapeutic. Anti-CDH26-based therapeutics for the treatment of eosinophilia-associated conditions can be identified by known methodologies. One of skill in the art can recognize anti-CDH26-based therapeutics that can be used in the present invention.

[0089] Heretofore unknown anti-CDH26-based therapeutics can be developed by the screening of various compounds. Compounds that can be screened to determine their utility as anti-CDH26-based therapeutics include for example, but are not limited to, libraries of known compounds, including natural products, such as plant or animal extracts, synthetic chemicals, biologically active materials including proteins, peptides such as soluble peptides, including but not limited to members of random peptide libraries and combinatorial chemistry derived molecular libraries made of D- or L-configuration amino acids, or both, phosphopeptides (including, but not limited to, members of random or partially degenerate, directed phosphopeptide libraries), antibodies (including, but not limited to, polyclonal, monoclonal, chimeric, human, anti-idiotypic or single chain antibodies, and Fab, F(ab')₂ and Fab expression library fragments, and epitope-binding fragments thereof), organic and inorganic molecules, and the like.

[0090] In addition to the more traditional sources of test compounds, computer modeling and searching technologies permit the rational selection of test compounds by utilizing structural information from the ligand binding sites relevant proteins. Such rational selection of test compounds can decrease the number of test compounds that must be screened in order to identify a therapeutic compound. Knowledge of the sequences of relevant proteins allows for the generation of models of their binding sites that can be used to screen for potential ligands. This process can be accomplished in several manners known in the art. A preferred approach involves generating a sequence alignment of the protein sequence to a template (derived from the crystal structures or NMR-based model of a similar protein(s), conversion of the amino acid structures and refining the model by molecular mechanics and visual examination. If a strong sequence alignment cannot be obtained then a model can also be generated by building models of the hydrophobic helices. Mutational data that point towards residue-residue contacts can also be used to position the helices relative to each other so that these contacts are achieved. During this process, docking of the known ligands into the binding site cavity within the helices can also be used to help position the helices by developing interactions that would stabilize the binding of the ligand. The model can be completed by refinement using molecular mechanics and loop building using standard homology modeling techniques. (General information regarding modeling can be found in Schoneberg, T. et. al. *Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology* 151:181-93 (1999); Flower, D. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta* 1422:207-34 (1999); and Sexton, P. *Current Opinion in Drug Discovery and Development* 2:440-8 (1999).)

[0091] Once the model is completed, it can be used in conjunction with one of several existing computer programs to narrow the number of compounds to be screened by the screening methods of the present invention, like the DOCK program (UCSF Molecular Design Institute, San Francisco, Calif.). In several of its variants it can screen databases of commercial and/or proprietary compounds for steric fit and

rough electrostatic complementarity to the binding site. Another program that can be used is FLEXX (Tripos Inc., St. Louis, Mo.).

Administration

[0092] Administration of anti-CDH26-based therapeutics as disclosed herein can be used in methods of treating or preventing an allergic inflammatory condition in a subject in need thereof. Anti-CDH26-based therapeutics include those that suppresses CDH26 activity. For example, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics include, but are not limited to, CDH26-Fc fusion proteins, CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotides, CDH26-directed miRNAs, CDH26-directed shRNAs, CDH26-directed humanized antibodies, CDH-related peptides, catenin-based inhibitors, and the like. Anti-CDH26-based therapeutics also include compounds or compositions that target a binding site and/or protein of at least one GAIT consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' UTR.

[0093] Anti-CDH26-based therapeutics can be administered by any pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, including, for example, any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is known in the art. Except insofar as any conventional medium or agent is incompatible with the active compound, such media can be used in the compositions of the invention. Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions. A pharmaceutical composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration. Routes of administration include for example, but are not limited to, intravenous, intramuscular, and oral, and the like. Additional routes of administration include, for example, sublingual, buccal, parenteral (including, for example, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraarterial, intradermal, intraperitoneal, intracisternal, intravesical, intrathecal, or intravenous), transdermal, oral, transmucosal, and rectal administration, and the like.

[0094] Solutions or suspensions used for appropriate routes of administration, including, for example, but not limited to parenteral, intradermal, or subcutaneous application, and the like, can include, for example, the following components: a sterile diluent such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oils, polyethylene glycols, glycerine, propylene glycol or other synthetic solvents; antibacterial agents such as benzyl alcohol or methyl parabens; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid or sodium bisulfate; chelating agents such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid; buffers such as acetates, citrates, or phosphates and agents for the adjustment of tonicity such as sodium chloride or dextrose, and the like. The pH can be adjusted with acids or bases, such as, for example, hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide, and the like. The parenteral preparation can be enclosed in, for example, ampules, disposable syringes, or multiple dose vials made of glass or plastic, and the like.

[0095] Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for injectable use include, for example, sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or dispersions and sterile powders for the extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersion, and the like. For intravenous administration, suitable carriers include, for example, physiological saline, bacteriostatic water, Cremophor ELTM (BASF, Parsippany, N.J.) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS), and the like. In all cases,

the composition should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. The carrier can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (for example, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid polyethylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof, and the like. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be achieved by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, such as, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol, ascorbic acid, thimerosal, and the like. In many cases, it can be preferable to include isotonic agents, such as, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as mannitol, sorbitol, and sodium chloride, and the like, in the composition. Prolonged absorption of the injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent which delays absorption such as, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin, and the like.

[0096] Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle that contains a basic dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying which yields a powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution thereof.

[0097] Oral compositions generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier. They can be enclosed in gelatin capsules or compressed into tablets, for example. For oral administration, the agent can be contained in enteric forms to survive the stomach or further coated or mixed to be released in a particular region of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract by known methods. For the purpose of oral therapeutic administration, the active compound can be incorporated with excipients and used in the form of tablets, troches, or capsules, or the like. Oral compositions can also be prepared using a fluid carrier for use as a mouthwash, wherein the compound in the fluid carrier is applied orally and swished and expectorated or swallowed. Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents, and/or adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition. The tablets, pills, capsules, troches, and the like can contain any of the following exemplary ingredients, or compounds of a similar nature: a binder such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth or gelatin; an excipient such as starch or lactose, a disintegrating agent such as alginic acid, Primogel®, or corn starch; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate; a glidant such as colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; or a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, or orange flavoring, or the like.

[0098] For administration by inhalation, the compounds can be delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from pressurized container or dispenser, which contains a suitable propellant, e.g., a gas such as carbon dioxide, or a nebulizer, or the like.

[0099] Systemic administration can also be by transmucosal or transdermal means. For transmucosal or transdermal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be

permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art, and include, for example, for transmucosal administration, detergents, bile salts, and fusidic acid derivatives, and the like. Transmucosal administration can be accomplished through the use of nasal sprays or suppositories. For transdermal administration, the active compounds are formulated into ointments, salves, gels, or creams as generally known in the art.

[0100] The compounds can also be prepared in the form of suppositories (e.g., with conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter and other glycerides) or retention enemas for rectal delivery.

[0101] In one embodiment, the active compounds are prepared with carriers that will protect the compound against rapid elimination from the body, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants and microencapsulated delivery systems, and the like. Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, such as, for example, ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid, and the like. Methods for preparation of such formulations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The materials can also be obtained commercially from Alza Corporation and Nova Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Liposomal suspensions (including liposomes targeted to infected cells with monoclonal antibodies to viral antigens) can also be used as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art, for example, as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,522,811, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0102] It is especially advantageous to formulate oral or parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. "Dosage unit form" as used herein refers to physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the subject to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active compound calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The details for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic effect to be achieved, and the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of individuals. Such details are known to those of skill in the art.

[0103] Having described the invention in detail, it will be apparent that modifications, variations, and equivalent embodiments are possible without departing from the scope of the invention defined in the appended claims. Furthermore, it should be appreciated that all examples in the present disclosure are provided as non-limiting examples.

EXAMPLES

[0104] The following non-limiting examples are provided to further illustrate embodiments of the invention disclosed herein. It should be appreciated by those of skill in the art that the techniques disclosed in the examples that follow represent approaches that have been found to function well in the practice of the invention, and thus can be considered to constitute examples of modes for its practice. However, those of skill in the art should, in light of the present disclosure, appreciate that many changes can be made in the specific embodiments that are disclosed and still obtain a like or similar result without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Example 1

Patient Selection

[0105] Entry criteria were that patients who had signs and symptoms consistent with upper GI tract disease and had biopsies that documented active eosinophilic gastritis (EG), with gastric tissue samples preserved for genetic and molecular analyses. The endoscopic procedure at which samples for histopathology, gene microarray, and PCR analyses were obtained was designated the incident endoscopy. All gastric samples used for ancillary studies were obtained from the antrum, and all samples obtained for routine histology and immunohistochemistry were obtained from the antrum or antrum/body.

[0106] Active EG was defined as increased numbers of eosinophils, which were the predominant inflammatory cells in some areas, in a gastric biopsy that showed architectural abnormalities, including excessively branched and/or coiled glands. Similar criteria were used to diagnose eosinophilic duodenitis (ED), eosinophilic jejunitis (EJ), and eosinophilic colitis (EC). Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) was diagnosed if at least 15 eosinophils were found per high power field (Furuta, G. et al. *Gastroenterology* 133:1342-63 (2007)).

[0107] EG patients who met entry criteria were identified in the Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders (CCED) database. Controls were identified in the CCED database as patients without eosinophilic GI disease who otherwise met entry criteria and who were matched for age and sex to the EG patients. Clinical information was obtained from the CCED database and review of medical records.

Example 2

Histopathology and Genetic and Molecular Analysis

Biopsy Preparation

[0108] Samples were obtained at the incident endoscopy from the duodenum, stomach, and esophagus of all patients. Some patients also had colonoscopy. Biopsies for histologic evaluation were fixed in 10% formalin, routinely processed, and embedded in paraffin. Sections were cut at 5 microns thickness and stained with hematoxylin and eosin or antibody. Alcian blue/PAS stain (Polyscientific, Bay Shore, N.Y.) was also performed on all biopsies.

Immunohistochemistry

[0109] Antibody information is provided in Table 1. The antibodies used for immunohistochemical staining in this study, their source, the dilution at which they were used, and the antigen retrieval method applied to the tissue sections are listed. Immunohistochemical stains were performed using a Ventana Benchmark XT automated immunostainer (Ventana, Tucson, Ariz.).

Quantitative Microscopy

[0110] Multiple levels of gastric biopsies were surveyed, the area containing the greatest concentration of eosinophils was identified, and eosinophils were counted at 400 \times (0.3 mm²) to generate a peak eosinophil count. A peak eosinophil count was also obtained for biopsies from other sites in the GI tract if eosinophils appeared excessive. In a similar manner, cells that stained with antibodies were counted at 400 \times magnification in the area showing the greatest concentration of

stained cells. If possible, quantitative evaluations were performed in well-oriented areas.

Microarray Analyses

[0111] Gastric antrum samples collected during the incident endoscopy were stored in RNAlater until subjected to RNA isolation using the miRNeasy kit (Qiagen, Valencia, Calif.), per the manufacturer's instructions. Hybridization to DNA microarray using the GeneChip Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array (Agilent, Santa Clara, Calif.) was performed by the Microarray Core at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC).

Quantitative PCR

[0112] Total RNA was isolated from biopsy specimens using the miRNeasy kit (Qiagen), per the manufacturer's suggested procedure. Total RNA was isolated from cells using Trizol (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, Calif.), per the manufacturer's protocol. Total RNA (100 ng-1 μ g) was used to synthesize cDNA using Superscript II Reverse Transcriptase (Invitrogen) using the protocol suggested by the manufacturer. Real-time (RT-) PCR was performed using the IQ5 system (Biorad, Hercules, Calif.). Reactions were carried out using SYBR green mix (BioRad). The value obtained for each primer set was normalized to the GAPDH value for the corresponding sample. Primer sequences used in the RT-PCR studies are listed in Table 2.

Constructs

[0113] pCDNA3.1 (-) was obtained from Promega (Madison, Wis.). Expression plasmids were constructed by PCR amplification of the relevant open reading frame using primers listed in Table 3. The following primers were used: pCDH26-HA: 4177 and 4242, pCDH26-MYC: 4177 and 4241, pCDH26: 4177 and 4178, pHA-CTNNB1: 4590 and 4367, pCTNNB1-HA: 4366 and 4593, pCTNNA1-HA: 4370 and 4701, pCTNND1: 4468 and 4469. PCR products were then ligated into the following restriction sites of pCDNA3.1 (-): pCDH26-HA: EcoRI/KpnI, pCDH26-MYC: EcoRI/KpnI, pCDH26: EcoRI/NotI, pHA-CTNNB1: XbaI/KpnI, pCTNNB1-HA: XbaI/KpnI, pCTNNA1-HA: EcoRI/KpnI, pCTNND1: EcoRI/KpnI. pMIRNA1-puro-control has been described previously (Lu, et al., 2012). pMIRNA1-puro-CDH26 was made by introducing the CDH26 open reading frame into the EcoRI and NotI sites of pMIRNA1-puro-control.

Immunofluorescence Microscopy

[0114] TE-7 cells, NCI-N87 cells, or HEK 293T cells were grown on glass coverslips. Cells were fixed in ice-cold acetone for 10 minutes, incubated in blocking buffer (PBS, 1% saponin, 3% FBS), and then incubated with either primary antibody or an equal concentration of control antibody in blocking buffer: CDH26, 0.06 μ g/ml (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, Mo.); control, normal rabbit IgG (R & D Systems, Minneapolis, Minn.). Sections were incubated with Alexa 594-conjugated secondary antibody (1:250) (Invitrogen). Sections were washed 3 times with PBS after each antibody incubation. Fluoromount G containing DAPI was used for mounting. Sections were visualized using the BX51 microscope, DP72 camera, and DP2-BSW imaging software (Olympus America Inc., Center Valley, Pa.).

TABLE 1

Immunohistochemical antibody information.			
Antibody	Vendor	Dilution	Antigen retrieval
Cadherin-like 26	Sigma-Aldrich St. Louis, MO	1:50	EDTA, 30 min
MIB-1	Ventana Medical Systems, Inc Tucson, AZ	Predilute	EDTA, 30 min
CD117, c-kit	Cell Marque Corp Rocklin, CA	Predilute	EDTA, 30 min
Tryptase	Ventana Medical Systems, Inc Tucson, AZ	Predilute	None

TABLE 1-continued

Immunohistochemical antibody information.			
Antibody	Vendor	Dilution	Antigen retrieval
IL-13	Gene Tex, Inc Irvine, CA	1:25	None
FOXP3	Abcam Inc. Cambridge, MA	1:200	EDTA, 30 min
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Ventana Medical Systems, Inc Tucson, AZ	Predilute	EDTA, 30 min

TABLE 2

RT-PCR primers.			
Transcript	Forward Primer (5' to 3')	Reverse Primer (5' to 3')	Reference
GAPDH	TGGAATCCCATCACCATCT	GTCTTCTGGGTGGCAGTGAT	*
CDH26	TGCTTTTCTGTTGCGATGCT	CTTGCCATAACCCAGCTC	This Study
IL-4	ACATCTTTGCTGCCCTCAA	AGGCAGCGAGTGTCTTCT	**
IL-5	GCTTCTGCATTTGAGTTGCTAGCT	TGGCCGTCAATGTATTTCTTTATTAAG	***
IL-13	ACAGCCCTCAGGAGCTCAT	TCAGGTTGATGCTCCATACCAT	**
IFN-gamma	GTTTTGGGTTCTCTTGGCTGTTA	AAAAGAGTTCCATTATCCGCTACATC	****
TNF-alpha	CCCCAGGGACCTCTCTCTAATC	GGTTTGCTACAACATGGGCTACA	****
IL-17A	AATCTCCACCGCAATGAGGA	ACGTTCCCATCAGCGTTGA	*****
IL-17F	TGCCAGGAGGTAGTAGAAGCTT	ATGCAGCCCAAGTTCCTACACT	*****
IL-25	TGAAGTGCTGTCTGGAGCAG	TCCTCAGAATCATCCATGTC	*****
IL-33	CACCCCTCAAATGAATCAGG	GGAGCTCCACAGAGTGTTC	*****

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TABLE 3

Primers used to generate expression constructs.	
Primer Designation	Primer (5' to 3')
4177	GGAATTCCACATGGCCATGAGATCCGGGAGG
4178	ATAAGAATGCGGCCGCTTAGGAAGGAACACCTGACT
4241	GGGGTACCTTACAGGTCCTCCTCGCTGATCAGCTTCTGCTCGGAAGGAACACCTGACT
4242	GGGGTACCTTAGGCGTAGTCGGGCACGTCGTAGGGTAGGAAGGAACACCTGACT
4366	GCTCTAGACACCATGGCTACTCAAGCTGATTG
4367	GGGGTACCTTACAGGTCAGTATCAAACC
4370	GGAATTCCACATGACTGCTGTCCATGCAGG
4590	GCTCTAGACACCATGTACCCCTACGACGTGCCCGACTACGCCGCTACTCAAGCTGATTG

TABLE 3 -continued

Primers used to generate expression constructs.	
Primer Designation	Primer (5' to 3')
4593	GGGGTACCTTAGGCGTAGTCGGGCACGTCGTAGGGGTACAGGTCAGTATCAAACC
4701	GGGGTACCTTAGGCGTAGTCGGGCACGTCGTAGGGGTAGATGCTGTCCATAGCTTTG
4468	GGAATTACCATGGACGACTCAGAGGTGG
4469	GGGGTACCCTAAATCTTCTGCATGGAGG

Example 3

Cell Culture and Treatment

Culture of Primary Esophageal Epithelial Cells

[0115] A sample of distal esophageal epithelium was collected during incident or other endoscopy. Following digestion with trypsin/EDTA, biopsy samples were cultured in modified F-media (3:1 F-12/Dulbecco modified Eagle's medium) supplemented with FBS (5%), adenine (24.2 µg/ml), cholera toxin (10-4 µmol/L), insulin (5 µg/ml), hydrocortisone (0.4 µg/ml), and epidermal growth factor (10 ng/ml) in the presence of penicillin, streptomycin, and amphotericin (Invitrogen). Cultures were supplemented with 1 to 5×10⁵ feeders (NIH 3T3 J2 cells irradiated 6000 rad). Media were changed twice weekly. Upon reaching confluency, cells were trypsinized and re-plated for experiments.

Culture of Cell Lines and Cytokine Treatment

[0116] Cells from human esophageal cell line TE-7 (IARC, Lyon, France) were maintained in RPMI medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with 5% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals, Lawrenceville, Ga.) and 1% penicillin/streptomycin (Invitrogen). HEK 293T cells were grown in DMEM medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals) and 1% penicillin/streptomycin (Invitrogen). NCI-N87 cells were obtained from ATCC (Manassas, Va.) and cultured in RPMI medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals) and 1% penicillin/streptomycin (Invitrogen). IL-13 (Peprotech, Rocky Hill, N.J.) was added to culture media at 10 or 100 ng/ml for 24 or 48 hours.

Example 4

Protein Analyses

Protein Extracts and Immunoprecipitation

[0117] To confirm and complement microscopic studies of biopsy samples using antibodies, additional analyses of protein expression were performed. For immunoprecipitation, cell lysates were prepared from HEK 293T cells generally, as previously described (Klingelhofer, J. et al. *Mol. Cell Biol.* 22:7449-58 (2002)). Cells (approximately 2×10⁶) were washed one time with PBS and incubated in IP buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 1 mM dithiothreitol, 1% Nonidet P-40 (NP-40), 20 µM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride) for 10 minutes on ice. Cells were scraped from the plate and rotated at 4° C. for 10 minutes. Lysates were cleared by centrifugation at 20,000×g at 4° C.

for 10 minutes. An equal amount of protein was added to total 500 µl of IP buffer plus protease inhibitors (Roche, Indianapolis, Ind.). Antibodies (2 µg each for either α-HA (Covance, Princeton, N.J.), α-myc (Cell Signaling Technology, Danvers, Mass.), α-p120 (BD Transduction Laboratories, Lexington, Ky.), or mouse IgG1 control (AbD Serotec, Raleigh, N.C.)) were added to the lysates and rotated overnight at 4° C. Subsequently, 20 µl of protein A/G agarose beads (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc., Santa Cruz, Calif.) were added per sample. After 2 hours of rotation at 4° C., beads and immunoprecipitates were washed 5 times in IP buffer containing protease inhibitors. 2× Laemmli buffer was added to the immunoprecipitates or total cell lysates saved prior to IP (input) prior to SDS-PAGE analysis, as described below.

Western Blot Analyses

[0118] Total protein (5-10 µg for TE-7 and primary esophageal epithelial cells), inputs, or immunoprecipitates (as described above) were loaded onto 4-12% NuPage Tris-bis gels (Invitrogen), electrophoresed for 1.5 hours at 150 V, and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes, followed by western blot analysis. Primary antibodies were diluted in TBS/0.1% Tween 20 containing 5% milk in the following proportions: rabbit anti-CDH26 (Sigma-Aldrich), 1:500; rabbit anti-Beta-catenin (Cell Signaling Technology, Inc., Danvers, Mass.); mouse anti-HA (Covance), 1:1000; mouse anti-myc (Cell Signaling Technology, Inc.), 1:1000; mouse anti-beta-actin (Sigma-Aldrich), 1:5000. Secondary antibodies were incubated with the membranes in the following proportions: anti-goat HRP, 1:10,000 (Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, Inc., West Grove, Pa.); anti-rabbit HRP, 1:10,000 (Cell Signaling Technology, Inc.); anti-mouse HRP, 1:10,000 (Cell Signaling Technology, Inc.). Blots were developed using ECL Plus reagent (GE Healthcare, Piscataway, N.J.). Densitometry measurements were performed using Multi Gauge V3.0 (Fujifilm, Japan).

Protein Extracts from Esophageal and Gastric Tissue

[0119] Biopsy samples collected from the distal esophagus or the gastric antrum samples designated for protein isolation were stored in RNAlater at -80° C. prior to protein isolation. Tissue was transferred into 100 µl of IP buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 1 mM dithiothreitol, 1% Nonidet P-40 (NP-40), 20 µM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride) and sonicated. The lysates were cleared and soluble lysates were subjected to protein quantitation by BCA assay, and the indicated quantity of protein was subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis, as described above. Alternatively, protein was isolated from the organic fraction remaining after isolation of RNA using the miRNeasy kit to

isolate RNA from biopsy specimens. Briefly, DNA was precipitated by the addition of 0.3 volumes of 100% ethanol followed by spin at 2,000×g. Protein was then precipitated from the supernatant by the addition of 3 volumes of acetone. Precipitated protein was pelleted by centrifugation at 20,000×g for 10 minutes at 4° C., dried, and solubilized in 2× Laemmli buffer. Solubilized proteins were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis, as described above.

Example 5

Analysis of Protein Localization

Lentivirus Production and Transduction of TE-7, NCI-N87, and HEK 293T Cells

[0120] Lentivirus production was carried out by the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Viral Vector Core (CCHMC). TE-7, NCI-N87, or HEK 293T cells were transduced by incubating lentivirus with the cells for 24 hours in the presence of 5 µg/ml polybrene. Media were then changed, and media containing 2 µg/ml puromycin was added after 24 hours. After selection for 48 hours in puromycin, cells were dispersed and plated to single cells in 96-well plates to obtain clones derived from single cells. A second round of dispersing, plating to single cells, and picking single colonies was performed. CDH26 expression was verified by western blot analysis and, in some cases, FACS analysis.

FACS Analysis

[0121] HEK 293T cells clones transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or pMIRNA1-puro-CDH26 were dispersed by EDTA treatment and then either fixed with 2% formaldehyde in FACS buffer (0.5% BSA, 0.01% Na₂S₂O₃ in 1×HBSS) or subjected to staining using BD cytofix/cytoperm reagents (BD Biosciences) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Cells were stained with antibody specific for CDH26 (0.12 µg antibody/50 µl FACS buffer) (Sigma Prestige) or an equivalent amount of normal rabbit IgG as a control. Cells were then incubated with secondary antibody (anti-rabbit Alexa 647) (Invitrogen). Flow cytometry analysis was performed using the FACSCalibur (BD), and analysis was performed using FlowJo software (TreeStar, Ashland, Oreg.).

Biotinylation of Cell Surface Proteins

[0122] Adherent cells were washed with ice-cold biotinylation buffer (100 mM HEPES, 50 mM NaCl, pH 8.0) twice before addition of cold biotinylation buffer plus sulfo-NHS-LC-biotin (concentration 9.259 mg/ml) (Thermo Scientific). Cells were incubated on ice for 30 minutes. The buffer was removed, and the cells were washed 3 times with ice cold PBS+100 mM glycine. Protein was then extracted as described above using IP buffer plus protease inhibitors (Klingelhofer, J. et al. *Mol. Cell Biol.* 22:7449-58 (2002)). Cell lysates were incubated with streptavidin-agarose beads (Sigma-Aldrich) for 2 hours at 4° C. Beads and precipitates were washed 5 times with cold IP buffer containing 20 mM PMSF. The beads were then boiled for 5 minutes (100° C.) in 2× Laemmli buffer, and the solubilized proteins were subjected to SDS PAGE and western blot analyses as described above.

Eosinophil Isolation

[0123] One part 4.5% Dextran in PBS was added to 5 parts peripheral blood collected from normal donors. Leukocyte-rich plasma was applied to a Percoll gradient (1.5 ml 10×HBSS, 9.5 ml Percoll, 4.5 ml H₂O) and spun at 1300 rpm (500×g) for 30 minutes. Granulocytes were collected and red blood cells were lysed by hypotonic lysis. Granulocytes were incubated with anti-CD16 MACS microbeads (Miltenyi Biotec) (1 µl per 1×10⁶ cells) for 30 minutes at 4° C. Cells were then applied to a MACS column, and eosinophils were eluted. Eosinophil purity was confirmed by cyto-spin and DiffQuick staining and was routinely >95%, and viability was >98%, as assessed by trypan blue exclusion. Eosinophils were resuspended at a density of 1×10⁶ cells/ml in RPMI+10% FBS+1% penicillin/streptomycin and cultured at 37° C. until they were used in transmigration assays or for protein isolation.

Eosinophil Transmigration Assay

[0124] HEK293T cells transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or pMIRNA1-puro-CDH26 as described above were plated on transwell inserts (polycarbonate, 6.5 mm diameter, 0.3 µm pore size) (Costar, Tewksbury, Mass.). Eosinophils (1.3×10⁵ at a density of 1×10⁶ cells/ml suspended in 1×HBSS plus 1 mM CaCl₂ plus 2% FBS) were applied to the top of the transwell, while the bottom chamber of the transwell contained 1×HBSS plus 1 mM CaCl₂ plus 2% FBS and the indicated concentration of chemoattractant (human eotaxin-1, Peprotech). Reactions were incubated at 37° C. for 1.5 hours. The transwells were then subjected to Wright-Giemsa staining per the manufacturer's protocol (Harleco, EMD Millipore, Billerica, Mass.) to confirm the confluence of the cells. The number of eosinophils present in the lower chambers was then assessed by counting the cells using a Hemacytometer (Sigma-Aldrich).

Statistical Analyses

[0125] Intergroup comparisons of the numbers of eosinophils and immunoreactive cells in gastric biopsies were made using Student's t test, and significance was set at P<0.05. For microarray analyses, gene transcript levels were determined, and statistical analyses were performed using algorithms in GeneSpring GX v7.3 software (Agilent). For RT-PCR comparisons, the Mann-Whitney test was used.

Example 6

Characterization of EG Patients and Disease Manifestations

History of Atopic Disease in EG Patients

[0126] Information corresponding to each patient involved in the gastric tissue microarray study is listed in Table 4. Indication for the index endoscopy is listed, as well as the macroscopic findings observed during the index endoscopy. Diagnosis derived from the index endoscopy is shown, and any EGID diagnosis that was assigned prior to the index endoscopy is also listed. Duration of EG indicates the amount of time elapsed between the initial diagnosis of EG and the index endoscopy. Medications at index endoscopy indicate the medications that the patient was prescribed during the time period immediately prior to the index endoscopy. Diet at

index endoscopy lists the diet that the patient was prescribed during the time period immediately prior to the index endoscopy.

[0127] There were 4 females and 1 male in the EG and control groups (Table 4). The mean age of EG patients was 12.6 ± 6.2 (range 3-20) years; the mean age of controls was 9 ± 7.3 (range 1-15) years, not significantly different from EG patients.

[0128] Table 5 includes patient atopic history, including whether a patient has a history of the indicated condition, if known. This information was self-reported by the patient or his/her parent. Patient numbers correspond to those listed in Table 4.

[0129] Four patients in each group reported histories of allergy (Table 5). One EG patient reported anaphylaxis to food (#2); none of the EG or control patients reported anaphylaxis to non-food. One patient in each group reported a history of asthma, and 1 of these patients (#2) was treated with inhaled flovent. Four EG patients were evaluated with skin prick tests that were positive in 2 patients. One EG patient (#1) had skin prick tests that were reportedly positive performed prior to referral to the CCED. Two EG patients (#1, #2) had multiple positive radioallergosorbent (RAST) tests. One control patient (#6) was a sibling of a patient with EoE.

Elevated Levels of Blood Eosinophils in EG

[0130] Results of laboratory tests performed on peripheral blood obtained the day of the endoscopy or the most proximal blood sample to the day of the biopsy are listed in Table 6. Complete blood counts were obtained from all 10 patients, and the absolute eosinophil count was increased in all EG patients but not in any of the control patients (Table 6). Additional tests included lack of ova and parasites in stool samples from 3 EG (#1, #3, #5) and from 1 control patient (#8). Plasma eosinophil cationic protein was measured in one EG patient (#1), and it was found to be elevated (314 ng/ml; normal <31.2 ng/ml).

Correlation of Gross Mucosal Appearances with Histological Diagnoses

[0131] Gastric mucosal nodularity was reported in 4 of 5 EG patients (Table 4). A small hyperplastic polyp was found at the incisura in one EG patient (#4). White plaques or patches and thickened mucosa were found in the esophagi of 3 EG patients who also had EE. Nodular mucosa in the jejunum was described in the EG patient who had active EJ. The mucosa appeared normal in all control patients. Indications for the incident endoscopy are listed in Table 4.

Chronic Nature of EG and Frequent Association with Other EGIDs

[0132] At the incident endoscopy, all 5 EG patients had active EG. EG patients had between 1 and 7 prior endoscopies, and 4 of 5 EG patients had prior gastric biopsies that showed active EG (Table 4).

[0133] Four EG patients had eosinophilic inflammation in other sites in the GI tract in addition to the stomach at incident endoscopy and prior endoscopies (Table 4). Three of the EG patients had EE in addition to EG at index endoscopy.

[0134] None of the control patients had eosinophilic inflammation in their GI biopsies, and all their biopsies were considered non-diagnostic. Control patients did not have any GI endoscopies other than the incident procedure. The incident endoscopic procedure included colonoscopy in two EG (#1, #3) and 2 control (#8, #9) patients that yielded normal biopsies in all 4 patients.

Treatment at Index Endoscopy

[0135] Medications for all patients that were listed in the clinical record at the time of the index endoscopy are shown in Table 4. Fluticasone propionate, both inhaled and swallowed, was prescribed for 1 EG patient who had asthma and EoE diagnosed prior to the index endoscopy. Two EG patients followed an elimination diet at the time of incident endoscopy, and 3 patients had no dietary restrictions.

TABLE 4

Index endoscopy information.								
Patient	Age (yrs)/ Sex	Indication	Endoscopic findings	Dx	Prior EGID Dx	Duration of EG	Med at IE	Diet at IE
1 EG	3/F	Duodenal mass	Antrum and jejunum: nodules	EG, EJ	EG, ED	2.5 mos	Ferrous sulfate	Ad lib
2 EG	20/F	Abdominal pain	Esophagus: thickened mucosa. Antrum: erythema.	EG, EoE	EoE	None	Flovent, Protonix	Elim
3 EG	15/F	Diarrhea	Esophagus: white plaques; Antrum: nodules	EG, EoE	EG	8.5 mos	Iron, vitamins, probiotics	Elim
4 EG	13/M	Med change	Fundus and body: nodules Antrum: normal	EG	EG	1.4 years	MTX, folic acid, prevacid	Ad lib
5 EG	12/F	Med change	Esophagus: white patches; Stomach: peristomal nodules	EG, EoE	EG, EoE, EJ	5 years	Beclor, 6 MP, growth hormone, lamisil	Ad lib
6 Con	1/F	Vomiting, siblings with EoE	Normal	NDA	None	None	Prevacid	Unk
7 Con	14/F	Abdominal pain, ITP	Normal	NDA	None	None	Prilosec	Ad lib
8 Con	14/F	Chronic abdominal pain	Normal	NDA	None	None	Bactroban	Ad lib
9 Con	15/M	Rectal bleeding	Normal	NDA	None	None	Miralax	Ad lib
10 Con	1/F	Daily spit ups	Normal	NDA	None	None	Prevacid, hydrocortisone cream	Ad lib

Yrs, years; Dx, diagnosis; EGID, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disease; EG, eosinophilic gastritis; Med, medication; IE, incident endoscopy; F, female; M, male; EJ, eosinophilic jejunitis; ED, eosinophilic duodenitis; EoE, eosinophilic esophagitis; Elim, elimination diet; mos, months; MTX, methotrexate; Beclor, beclomethasone; 6-MP, 6 mercaptopurine; NDA, no diagnostic abnormality; Unk, unknown; ITP, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura.

TABLE 5

Atopic history.										
Patient	Asthma	AC	AR	HF	U/A	Eczema	Drug allergy	Food allergy	E allergy	Skin prick tests
1 EG	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Yes	Unk	
2 EG	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	F, E
3 EG	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	F, E
4 EG	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Neg
5 EG	Unk	No	No	No	No	Unk	Unk	Yes	Yes	Neg
6 Con	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
7 Con	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
8 Con	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
9 Con	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
10 Con	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Unk	Unk	

AC, allergic conjunctivitis; AR, allergic rhinitis; HF, hay fever; U/A, urticaria/angioedema; E, environmental; EG, eosinophilic gastritis; Unk, unknown; F, food; Con, control.

TABLE 6

Laboratory findings.								
Patient	Peripheral eosinophil count (K/ μ L) (%)	Plasma IL-2 (pg/ml) (normal)	Plasma IL-5 (pg/ml) (normal)	Plasma γ -Interferon (pg/ml) (normal)	IgE (mg/dl) (normal)	CRP	Clo	
1 EG	<i>3.07 (21%)</i>	<i>24 (<18)</i>	<i>9 (<24)</i>			NI	Neg	
2 EG	<i>1.22 (19%)</i>				62 (<114)	NI	Neg	
3 EG	<i>2.42 (35%)</i>				100 (<114)	NI	Neg	
4 EG	<i>0.65 (9%)</i>	<i><6 (<18)</i>	<i>27 (<24)</i>	<i>82 (<68)</i>		NI		
5 EG	<i>0.31 (8%)</i>					NI	Neg	
6 Con	0 (0%)						Neg	
7 Con	0.09 (1%)	<i><6 (<18)</i>	<i>3 (<39)</i>	<i><5 (<154)</i>			Neg	
8 Con	0.07 (1%)					NI	Neg	
9 Con	0.12 (1%)					NI	Neg	
10 Con	0.17 (2%)				2 (<53)			

CRP, C-reactive protein; Clo, *Campylobacter*-like organism test/rapid urease test; NI, normal; Neg, negative.

Abnormal values are italicized; CRP and Clo tests were normal for all patients.

Example 7

Gastric Biopsy Histopathology

Marked Eosinophilic Inflammation

[0136] Table 7 shows the quantitative evaluation of inflammatory and epithelial cells. Data numbers represent peak counts/hpf for eosinophils, and cells were stained with the antibodies indicated at the head of each column. Mean eosinophil number is defined as the mean of peak eosinophil count/hpf in samples from body/antrum or antrum that were used for the immunohistochemical stains in the table.

[0137] Table 8 shows characteristics for the biopsy specimens of five patients with active EG. Patient numbers correspond to those in Table 4. The number of biopsy specimen pieces that were diagnostic of EG is compared to the total number of pieces obtained per patient per anatomical site in the third column. The fourth and fifth columns denote the number of eosinophils present per hpf in the field that exhibited the highest eosinophil count for the antral and fundic mucosa specimens, respectively. Peak eosinophil counts for antral vs. fundic mucosa were subjected to T-test, and the p-value was >0.05 . The mean \pm SD for the highest peak eosinophil count (antral or fundic mucosa) was also calculated.

[0138] Gastric biopsies from all EG patients showed active eosinophilic disease, with markedly increased numbers of eosinophils (Table 7, FIG. 1A). The mean and standard deviation values for the highest peak eosinophil counts in EG biopsies, including biopsies submitted in addition to those from antrum or antrum/body (Table 8), was 355 ± 214 eosinophils/hpf (range 122-603 eosinophils/hpf), compared to 10.6 ± 7.1 eosinophils/hpf (range 3-21 eosinophils/hpf) in controls ($P<0.05$). The mean of the peak eosinophil counts in antral-type mucosa was similar to that in fundic-type mucosa.

[0139] Although the number of eosinophils did not differ according to the type of gastric mucosa, in all cases, eosinophilic inflammation was non-uniform, varying among and even within pieces. The percent of pieces that were diagnostic for EG ranged from 20-100% in a submitted sample (Table 8).

[0140] In addition to showing variations in quantity of eosinophils, in EG biopsies, the distribution of eosinophils within pieces was different compared to controls. Eosinophils in EG biopsies spanned the depth of the mucosa and often appeared concentrated in superficial lamina propria. In contrast, eosinophils in control biopsies were confined to the deep lamina propria. Numerous intraepithelial eosinophils were observed in glands in EG biopsies but not in controls. Submucosa was present in 3 EG biopsies, and submucosal eosinophils were observed but were fewer than in the lamina propria. Submucosa was present in one control biopsy, but submucosal eosinophils were not seen.

Correlation of Peak Eosinophil Counts with Peripheral Blood Eosinophil Counts

[0141] The highest peak eosinophil counts in EG biopsies correlated significantly with absolute eosinophil counts in peripheral blood (FIGS. 1B-1C). The significant correlation remained after cases in which the blood sample had not been obtained at the time of index endoscopy were removed from the analysis. Tissue eosinophil counts did not correlate with blood eosinophil counts in control patients.

EG Pathology in Addition to Eosinophilic Inflammation

[0142] Architectural changes in EG biopsies included elongated and excessively branched or coiled glands. In contrast to controls, lamina propria fibrosis was seen in 3 EG cases. In areas in which eosinophils were not numerous in EG biopsies, chronic inflammation was sometimes seen, including numerous plasma cells. In one EG case, few acute inflammatory cells were seen in the epithelium of few glands. *Helicobacter pylori* organisms were not seen in biopsies from either group in H&E stains or in sections stained with antibody to the organisms. Intestinal metaplasia was not seen in any of the EG biopsies, as corroborated with Alcian blue/PAS stain. Intestinal metaplasia was seen in one control biopsy (#8).

Increased Cell Proliferation

[0143] The mucosa in EG biopsies was not atrophic and indeed often appeared thickened with elongated glands. Therefore, a study was designed to identify whether increased cell proliferation is present in EG.

[0144] Epithelial cells and lamina propria cells in both EG and control biopsies were stained with MIB1 antibody, which is a marker of cell proliferation that decorates nuclei in all phases of the cell cycle except G0. Lamina propria cells that stained included cells in lymphoid aggregates; lamina propria cells near lymphoid aggregates were not included in quantitative evaluations since lymphoid aggregates were not present in all cases.

[0145] The number of epithelial and lamina propria cells that stained with MIB 1 antibody was greater in EG compared to control biopsies (Table 7). The pattern of epithelial cell staining was remarkably altered in the EG biopsies. In several EG cases, there was expansion of the proliferative zone to include continuous staining of surface epithelial cells, a pattern not seen in control cases (FIG. 2). A subsequent study was designed to further characterize the inflammatory infiltrate in EG biopsies using immunohistochemistry.

Involvement of Other Inflammatory Cells

[0146] Mast cells—The presence of mast cells was assessed in gastric biopsies by using CD117 antibody, which stains the tyrosine kinase receptor c-kit that is normally expressed on the membrane of mast cells, and tryptase antibody, which stains a protease normally found in mast cell granules. In all gastric biopsies, there were significantly more cells that stained with anti-CD117 compared to cells that stained with anti-tryptase: 51 ± 3.8 vs 31.8 ± 7.3 , $P < 0.05$ for controls and 93.8 ± 33.1 vs 31 ± 15.5 , $P < 0.05$ for EG biopsies (Table 7).

[0147] In control biopsies, CD 117⁺ cells and tryptase⁺ cells were most numerous in lamina propria but were also seen in muscularis mucosa and submucosa. Gastric antrum sections from a biopsy obtained during the index endoscopy

were stained to observe CD117 localization. The cells were seen throughout the lamina propria but were usually more numerous in the deep lamina propria. In EG biopsies, cells stained with CD 117 or tryptase were seen in the same distribution as in control biopsies but appeared more numerous in the superficial lamina propria compared to controls. In EG biopsies, cells that stained with CD117, but not tryptase, were significantly increased compared to control biopsies (Table 7).

[0148] IL-13—In control biopsies, IL-13⁺ cells appeared most numerous in the deep lamina propria, but they were present throughout the depth of the mucosa in EG biopsies, including the superficial lamina propria. The number of IL-13⁺ cells in each group was highly variable and there was not a significant difference in the numbers of IL-13⁺ cells in EG cases compared to controls (Table 7).

[0149] The number of IL-13⁺ cells was found to correlate significantly with the number of tryptase⁺ mast cells. Gastric antrum sections from a biopsy obtained during the index endoscopy for each patient included in the study were stained to identify cells that expressed tryptase; separate biopsy specimens were stained for IL-13. The number of tryptase-positive cells was then correlated with the number of IL-13-positive cells.

[0150] FOXP3—In contrast to eosinophils, mast cells, and IL-13⁺ cells, FOXP3⁺ lymphocytes were most numerous in and immediately adjacent to lymphoid aggregates. Lymphoid aggregates were seen in 2 EG cases; FOXP3⁺ cells numbered 36 FOXP3⁺ cells/hpf and 46 FOXP3⁺ cells/hpf in and near the aggregates. In the 3 control cases, lymphoid aggregates exhibited 57 FOXP3⁺ cells/hpf, 0 FOXP3⁺ cells/hpf, and 6 FOXP3⁺ cells/hpf. Since lymphoid aggregates were not found in all biopsies, only cells in the lamina propria not associated with lymphoid aggregates were counted. The number of FOXP3⁺ cells was significantly increased in EG biopsies compared to controls (Table 7).

[0151] FIG. 1A. Hematoxylin and eosin-stained gastric antrum biopsy specimens were obtained from the index endoscopy of each patient included in this study (magnification=200× or 400×). Patient numbers correspond to those in the tables and the text.

[0152] FIG. 1B. The peak eosinophil count was obtained for the gastric tissue obtained at the index endoscopy for all patients and was correlated with the absolute eosinophil number (K/ μ L) counted from a blood sample obtained either the same day as the endoscopy or the most proximal time period possible.

[0153] FIG. 1C. The peak eosinophil count was obtained for the gastric tissue obtained at the index endoscopy for patients with active EG and was correlated with the absolute eosinophil number (K/ μ L) counted from a blood sample obtained either the same day as the endoscopy or the most proximal time period possible.

[0154] FIG. 2. Quantification and correlation of tryptase- and IL-13-positive cells in gastric antrum tissue are depicted. Gastric antrum sections obtained during the index endoscopy were stained with anti-tryptase or anti-IL-13 antibodies. The numbers of tryptase-positive cells and IL-13-positive cells per high power field were quantified.

TABLE 7

Quantitative evaluation of inflammatory and epithelial cells.								
Patient	Eosinophils	MIB1 epithelium	MIB1 lp	CD117	Tryptase	IL-13	FOXP3	CDH26
1 EG	567	528	27	82	55	62	11	135
2 EG	298	425	103	61	20	8	32	54
3 EG	553	558	49	114	28	28	28	241
4 EG	79	470	28	71	16	11	7	91
5 EG	197	775	121	141	36	14	14	0
Mean \pm SD	338 \pm 216	551 \pm 135	65.6 \pm 43.7	93.8 \pm 33.1	31 \pm 15.5	24.6 \pm 22.3	18.4 \pm 11	
6 Con	21	190	14	48	40	52	5	0
7 Con	13	289	17	53	20	13	1	0
8 Con	5	591	10	46	33	9	3	0
9 Con	3	135	15	55	34	19	8	0
10 Con	11	237	17	53	32	2	4	0
Mean \pm SD	10.6 \pm 7.1	288 \pm 178	14.6 \pm 2.9	51 \pm 3.8	31.8 \pm 7.3	19 \pm 19.5	4.2 \pm 2.6	
P value	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	>0.05	>0.05	<0.05	

Data numbers are peak eosinophil counts/hpf for eosinophils; cells stained with the antibodies are indicated at the head of each column. Mean eosinophil #, mean of peak eosinophil count/hpf in samples from body/antrum or antrum that were used for the immunohistochemical stains in the table.

TABLE 8

Biopsy characteristics.				
Patient	Sample source	Diagnostic #/total # pieces	Antral mucosa Peak eosinophil #	Fundic mucosa Peak eosinophil #
1 EG	Body/antrum*	2/5 (40%)	139/hpf	567/hpf
	Antral nodules	3/4 (75%)	603/hpf	None
2 EG	Body/antrum*	2/4 (50%)	298/hpf	35/hpf
3 EG	Body/antrum*	5/5 (100%)	553/hpf	None
4 EG	Antrum*	1/2 (50%)	79/hpf	None
	Body	2/5 (40%)	87/hpf	122/hpf
5 EG	Body/antrum*	1/5 (20%)	97/hpf	197/hpf
Mean ± SD				
Antral vs fundic			328 ± 244/hpf	230 ± 234/hpf
P value			>0.05	
Mean ± SD				
Highest			355 ± 214/hpf	

number; *biopsy used for immunohistochemistry that corresponded to tissue samples used for genetic and molecular analyses; P value, mean of antral values compared to fundic values.

Example 8

Unique Transcriptome of EG Biopsies

[0155] A subsequent study was designed to determine the molecular mechanisms controlling the pathogenesis of EG. Accordingly, RNA isolated from gastric antrum biopsy specimens from EG and control patients was subjected to global transcript analysis.

[0156] Of the transcripts studied, 104 were identified that exhibited differential regulation between the gastric tissue of these patients, including 28 that were up-regulated in EG patients and 76 that were down-regulated in EG patients compared to controls (Tables 9 and 10, respectively; FIG. 3A). Transcript levels of eotaxin-3 were monitored using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of patients used in the original microarray cohort and normalized to GAPDH levels for each sample. In both cohorts, relative eotaxin-3 transcript levels were significantly increased in the gastric tissue of patients with EG compared to that of control patients (FIG. 3B).

[0157] The transcripts identified in the EG transcriptome (this study) and the EoE transcriptome (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Clin. Invest.* 116:536-47 (2006)) were compared, and transcripts present in both lists are shown along with the fold change in gene expression observed comparing the gene expression values derived from tissue of patients with active disease to tissue of control patients. Of the transcripts dys-regulated in EG, 10 were also identified as being differentially regulated in the esophageal tissue of patients with active EoE, with six of these being regulated in a similar manner in both EoE and EG (Table 11, Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Clin. Invest.* 116:536-47 (2006)).

[0158] FIG. 3A. RNA isolated from the gastric antrum tissue of control patients or patients with active EG was subjected to microarray analysis. Transcripts with $p < 0.01$ (ANOVA) and additionally passing 2-fold filter analysis were defined as being differentially regulated between control and EG patients. Relative gene expression values are indicated per gene and per patient.

[0159] FIG. 3B. Transcript levels of eotaxin-3 were monitored using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of patients used in the original microarray cohort and normalized to GAPDH levels for each sample

TABLE 9

Genes up-regulated in EG patients compared to controls.				
Affy ID	Fold Change	Gene	Gene description	SEQ ID NO
232306_at	12.25	CDH26	Cadherin-like 26	1
206207_at	9.634	CLC	Charcot-Leyden crystal protein	2
205534_at	6.583	PCDH7	BH-protocadherin (brain-heart)	3
206726_at	5.552	PGDS	Prostaglandin D2 synthase, hematopoietic	4

TABLE 9-continued

Genes up-regulated in EG patients compared to controls.				
Affy ID	Fold Change	Gene	Gene description	SEQ ID NO
219727_at	4.991	DUOX2	Dual oxidase 2	5
217110_s_at	3.825	MUC4	Mucin 4, cell surface associated	6
218532_s_at	3.813	FAM134B	family with sequence similarity 134, member B	7
218510_x_at	3.63	FAM134B	family with sequence similarity 134, member B	8
204393_s_at	3.256	ACPP	Acid phosphatase, prostate	9
229332_at	3.197	HPDL	4-hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase-like	10
224480_s_at	2.973	AGPAT9	1-acylglycerol-3-phosphate O-acyltransferase 9	11
213355_at	2.89	ST3GAL6	ST3 beta-galactoside alpha-2,3-sialyltransferase 6	12
202587_s_at	2.842	AK1	Adenylate kinase 1	13
219763_at	2.693	DENND1A	DENN/MADD domain containing 1A	14
213924_at	2.674	MPPE1	Metallophosphoesterase 1	15
204895_x_at	2.434	MUC4	Mucin 4, tracheobronchial, cell surface associated	16
233085_s_at	2.415	OBFC2A	oligonucleotide/oligosaccharide-binding fold containing 2A	17
31874_at	2.306	GAS2L1	Growth arrest-specific 2 like 1	18
1556588_at	2.291	C15orf37	Hypothetical protein LOC283687	19
224461_s_at	2.266	AMID	Apoptosis-inducing factor (AIF)-like mitochondrion-associated inducer of death	20
222872_x_at	2.23	OBFC2A	oligonucleotide/oligosaccharide-binding fold containing 2A	21
201037_at	2.167	PFKP	Phosphofructokinase, platelet	22
238846_at	2.165	TNFRSF11A	Tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11a, NFKB activator	23
207820_at	2.109	ADH1A	Alcohol dehydrogenase 1A (class I), alpha polypeptide	24
219403_s_at	2.1	HPSE	Heparanase	25
204140_at	2.06	TPST1	Tyrosylprotein sulfotransferase 1	26
209729_at	2.042	GAS2L1	Growth arrest-specific 2 like 1	27
210254_at	2.006	MS4A3	membrane-spanning 4-domains, subfamily A, member 3 (hematopoietic cell-specific)	28

TABLE 10

Genes down-regulated in EG patients compared to controls.				
Affy ID	Fold Change	Gene	Gene description	SEQ ID NO
1568777_at	0.497	EML5	Echinoderm microtubule associated protein like 5	29
233932_at	0.497	AL109791	EST from clone 1206988, full insert	30
1565830_at	0.497	KIAA1731	KIAA1731 protein	31
1555858_at	0.493	LOC440944	UI-H-FL1-bfw-c-18-0-UI.s1 NCI_CGAP_FL1 <i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA clone	32
229141_at	0.49	WDR33	WD repeat domain 33	33
241996_at	0.49	RUFY2	RUN and FYVE domain containing 2	34
227663_at	0.489	AK098220	CDNA FLJ40901 fis, clone UTERU2003704	35
234193_at	0.488	KIAA1579	Hypothetical protein FLJ10770	36
235716_at	0.487	TRA2A	Transformer-2 alpha	37
232489_at	0.486	FLJ10287	Hypothetical protein FLJ10287	38
1555860_x_at	0.485	LOC440944	UI-H-FL1-bfw-c-18-0-UI.s1 NCI_CGAP_FL1 <i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA clone	39
219317_at	0.483	POLI	Polymerase (DNA directed) iota	40
232431_at	0.483	NR3C1	Nuclear receptor subfamily 3, group C, member 1 (glucocorticoid receptor)	41
230578_at	0.481	ZNF471	Zinc finger protein 471	42
244008_at	0.478	PARP8	poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase family, member 8	43
232395_x_at	0.477	LOC340351	ATP/GTP binding protein-like 3	44
221211_s_at	0.476	C21orf7	Chromosome 21 open reading frame 7	45
235803_at	0.476	CRLF3	Cytokine receptor-like factor 3	46
238484_s_at	0.475	RPS8	Ribosomal protein S8	47
239735_at	0.474	AC146944.2	RST5450 Athersys RAGE Library <i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA, mRNA sequence. (LincRNA)	48
228497_at	0.473	SLC22A15	Solute carrier family 22 (organic cation transporter), member 15	49
232773_at	0.473	MGC13057	Hypothetical protein MGC13057	50
226181_at	0.47	TUBE1	Tubulin, epsilon 1	51
239556_at	0.47	PDE5A	Phosphodiesterase 5A, cGMP-specific	52
226587_at	0.468	SNRPN	<i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA clone IMAGE: 5288750. small nuclear ribonucleoprotein polypeptide N.	53
235611_at	0.467	SREK1	602574315F1 NIH_MGC_77 <i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA clone IMAGE: 4702635	54
1570507_at	0.465	SFRS2IP	5', mRNA sequence, splicing regulatory glutamine/lysine-rich protein 1.	55
242708_at	0.463	PEX1	Splicing factor, arginine/serine-rich 2, interacting protein	56
213267_at	0.463	KIAA1117	Peroxisome biogenesis factor 1	57

TABLE 10-continued

Genes down-regulated in EG patients compared to controls.				
Affy ID	Fold Change	Gene	Gene description	SEQ ID NO
1552519_at	0.462	ACVR1C	Activin A receptor, type IC	58
211923_s_at	0.462	ZNF471	Zinc finger protein 471	59
233037_at	0.461	AF138859	Clone FLB2932 mRNA sequence	60
233019_at	0.46	CNOT7	CCR4-NOT transcription complex, subunit 7	61
213142_x_at	0.455	PION	pigeon homolog (<i>Drosophila</i>)	62
242598_at	0.455	AW294566.1	Transcribed locus, strongly similar to NP_000700.1 branched chain keto acid dehydrogenase E1, alpha polypeptide [<i>Homo sapiens</i>]	63
229546_at	0.454	NSE1	NSE1	64
232633_at	0.453	XRCC5	X-ray repair complementing defective repair in Chinese hamster cells 5 (double-strand-break rejoining; Ku autoantigen, 80 kDa)	65
238454_at	0.452	ZNF540	Zinc finger protein 540	66
235786_at	0.436	NUP88	Nucleoporin 88 kDa	67
1557050_at	0.432	HOTAIRM1	<i>Homo sapiens</i> , clone IMAGE: 5019307, mRNA; HOTAIRM1 HOXA transcript antisense RNA, myeloid-specific 1 (non-protein coding)	68
1556444_a_at	0.429	AK091686	CDNA FLJ34367 fis, clone FEBRA2016621	69
243150_at	0.428	AK093442	Transcribed locus	70
223185_s_at	0.427	BHLHB3	Basic helix-loop-helix domain containing, class B, 3	71
1552852_a_at	0.425	ZSCAN4	Zinc finger and SCAN domain containing 4	72
236705_at	0.425	TMEM196	transmembrane protein 196	73
225540_at	0.424	MAP2	Microtubule-associated protein 2	74
221833_at	0.419	SIAH1	Seven in absentia homolog 1 (<i>Drosophila</i>)	75
243172_at	0.415	AK093713	<i>Homo sapiens</i> cDNA FLJ36394 fis, clone THYMU2009104.	76
1556666_a_at	0.409	TTC6	Tetratricopeptide repeat domain 6	77
238796_at	0.406	YT521	Splicing factor YT521-B	78
238625_at	0.395	C1orf168	Chromosome 1 open reading frame 168	79
231358_at	0.394	MRO	maestro	80
239243_at	0.393	ZNF638	Zinc finger protein 638	81
207050_at	0.384	CACNA2D1	Calcium channel, voltage-dependent, alpha 2/delta subunit 1	82
208498_s_at	0.381	AMY1A	Amylase, alpha 1A; salivary	83
1562612_at	0.378	ME2	Malic enzyme 2, NAD(+)-dependent, mitochondrial	84
236824_at	0.373	KIAA1906	<i>Homo sapiens</i> KIAA1906 protein (KIAA1906), mRNA.	85
227623_at	0.36	CACNA2D1	calcium channel, voltage-dependent, alpha 2/delta subunit 1	86
244708_at	0.355	FLJ33996	hypothetical protein FLJ33996	87
206017_at	0.349	KIAA0319	KIAA0319	88
1563182_at	0.346	ACVR1C	activin A receptor, type IC	89
226591_at	0.343	SNRPN	small nuclear ribonucleoprotein polypeptide N	90
234314_at	0.341	RALGAP2	Ral GTPase activating protein, alpha subunit 2 (catalytic)	91
1560258_a_at	0.314	BC035780	<i>Homo sapiens</i> , clone IMAGE: 5590287, mRNA	92
230081_at	0.307	PLCXD3	Phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C, X domain containing 3	93
239671_at	0.304	AK055647	CDNA FLJ31085 fis, clone IMR321000037	94
229160_at	0.301	MUM1L1	Melanoma associated antigen (mutated) 1-like 1	95
230333_at	0.293	SAT	Spermidine/spermine N1-acetyltransferase	96
217617_at	0.291	KCTD7	Potassium channel tetramerisation domain containing 7	97
1552851_at	0.282	ZSCAN4	Zinc finger and SCAN domain containing 4	98
244455_at	0.268	KCNT2	Potassium channel, subfamily T, member 2	99
221530_s_at	0.26	BHLHB3	Basic helix-loop-helix domain containing, class B, 3	100
206678_at	0.248	GABRA1	Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) A receptor, alpha 1	101
223810_at	0.242	KLHL1	Kelch-like 1 (<i>Drosophila</i>)	102
244118_at	0.196	GABRA1	Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) A receptor, alpha 1	103
1568612_at	0.189	GABRG2	Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) A receptor, gamma 2	104

TABLE 11

Transcripts common between the EoE and EG transcriptomes.				
EG	EE	Gene	Gene description	
12.3	22.1	CDH26	cadherin-like 26	
9.6	11.8	CLC	Charcot-Leyden crystal protein	
5.6	6	PGDS	prostaglandin D2 synthase, hematopoietic	
3.8	4.7	MUC4	mucin 4, cell surface associated	
3.3	4.2	ACPP	acid phosphatase, prostate	
3	0.5	AGPAT9	1-acylglycerol-3-phosphate O-acyltransferase 9	
2.4	0.5	MUC4	mucin 4, cell surface associated	
2.2	0.4	TNFRSF11A	tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11a	
2.1	0.4	HPSE	heparanase	
0.5	0.2	SLC22A15	solute carrier family 22 (organic cation transporter), member 15	

Example 9

Increased CDH26 Gene Expression in EG

[0160] Cell adhesion is important in EGIDs. Both homophilic and heterophilic adhesion are important. Cadherin molecules consist of a large family of proteins that mediate calcium-dependent cell adhesion. These interactions can be mediated between cadherins and the same or other cadherin, or between cadherins and other molecules like integrins. Cadherin-like 26 (CDH26), a heretofore uncharacterized member of this family of proteins, appears to be upregulated in various T_H2 -associated conditions (Woodruff, et al. *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* 104:15858-63 (2007); Li and Gasbarre, *Int. J. Parasitol.* 39:813-24 (2009)).

[0161] Of the transcripts differentially regulated between EG biopsies and controls, CDH26 was the most highly up-regulated gene in the gastric tissue of EG patients (20.9 fold, $p < 0.01$). To compare the relative expression of CDH26 to that of other cadherin family members, the mean raw expression value for each cadherin probe present on the microarray was calculated as an estimate of the relative abundance of each transcript.

[0162] Of all cadherins, only CDH1 (E-cadherin) and CDH26 were found to exhibit raw signal that would indicate that the transcript is expressed (setting the threshold for expression of raw signal > 100) (FIG. 4A). Similarly, raw signal for cadherin transcripts in esophageal tissue from patients with active EoE only showed high raw values for CDH1, CDH3 (P-cadherin), and CDH26 (FIG. 4B). CDH26 was further analyzed given its high relative expression.

[0163] The results from the gene microarray study (FIG. 4C) were verified by performing RT-PCR analysis using the same samples that had been subjected to microarray analysis. CDH26 mRNA exhibited 15.3-fold up-regulation in EG compared to control tissue (FIG. 4D). The expression pattern of CDH26 was confirmed in an independent, replication cohort of patients. Relative CDH26 levels were again found to be increased in patients with active EG (35.6-fold) in the replication cohort (FIG. 4E).

[0164] FIG. 4A. Summary of cadherin family member expression levels in inflamed gastric tissue. The mean raw expression values derived from the microarray data for each cadherin molecule are graphed for the five patients with active EG.

[0165] FIG. 4B. Summary of cadherin family member expression levels in inflamed esophageal tissue. The mean raw expression values derived from the microarray data for each cadherin molecule are graphed for the 14 patients with active EoE characterized in a previous study (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Clin. Invest.* 116:536-47 (2006)).

[0166] FIG. 4C. Transcript levels were identified by microarray analysis. CDH26 transcript levels were verified using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of the same population of patients used in the microarray study. The fold-change in normalized expression for four CDH26 probes on the Affymetrix HG U133 Plus 2.0 array is depicted (top left: 232306_at; top right: 233663_s_at; bottom left: 233391_at; bottom right: 233662_at).

[0167] FIG. 4D. CDH26 and GAPDH transcript levels from the same patient samples subjected to microarray analysis were quantified by real-time (RT)-PCR. CDH26 levels were normalized to GAPDH levels for each sample and are presented as fold-change relative to normal.

[0168] FIG. 4E. Relative CDH26 levels from a replication cohort of patients were determined. Data are presented as fold-change relative to normal.

Example 10

Increased CDH26 Protein Expression in EG

[0169] A subsequent study was designed to identify the quantity and localization of CDH26 protein expression in EG and control biopsies. Immunohistochemistry for CDH26 was performed on EG and control biopsies.

[0170] The surface epithelium in 4 of 5 EG biopsies, but none of the controls, was stained with anti-CDH26 (FIG. 5A, Table 7). The staining was cytoplasmic with focal membrane accentuation in the surface epithelial cells in EG biopsies (FIGS. 5A and 5B). Gland epithelial cells in both groups showed faint cytoplasmic staining. The intensity of the CDH26 signal was graded, and the peak number of CDH26-positive cells per high power field was quantified for each biopsy and graphed (FIG. 5C).

[0171] To confirm the increase in CDH26 protein observed and to confirm the molecular weight of the protein, western blot was performed on lysates obtained from the gastric antrum tissue of EG and control biopsies. CDH26 protein was found to be increased on average 2.3-fold in the gastric antrum tissue of EG patients compared to that of control patients (FIG. 5D).

[0172] FIG. 5A. Representative normal and EG biopsy specimens are depicted; the left panel shows a serial section of the biopsy stained with control antibody.

[0173] FIG. 5B. High magnification of gastric antrum tissue derived from a patient with active EG stained for CDH26 is depicted.

[0174] FIG. 5C. Quantification of the intensity and prevalence of CDH26-positive cells is depicted. The left panel displays the intensity of CDH26 staining, graded on a scale of 1-4, and the number of normal and EG biopsies assigned each score. The right panel displays results from quantification of the peak number of CDH26-positive cells per high power field per biopsy.

[0175] FIG. 5D. CDH26 protein levels in gastric antrum tissue are depicted. Protein was isolated from the organic phase obtained following RNA isolation from the same gastric tissue. Protein lysates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis for CDH26 and beta-actin (top). The signal for CDH26 and beta-actin was quantified, and the ratio was graphed (bottom).

Example 11

Increased Expression of TH2 Cytokine IL-13 in EG

[0176] Cytokine transcripts have previously been shown to be increased and are critical components in the pathogenesis of EE. Therefore, to identify factors that promote EG pathogenesis, cytokine transcript levels in the gastric tissue of EG and control patients were determined.

[0177] The T_H2 cytokine IL-13 showed significant (on average, 375-fold) up-regulation in EG compared to control biopsies, and a trend toward increased IL-4 and IL-5 was observed (FIG. 6A). A trend toward decreased TNF-alpha was seen in EG tissue. None of the other cytokines examined, namely interferon-gamma, IL-17A, IL-17F, or IL-33, exhibited a significant difference in transcript levels between control and EG patient tissue (FIG. 6A). Similar patterns of

cytokine gene expression were observed when the relative levels were examined in the replication cohort (FIG. 6B). Significant decreases in IL-4, IL-5, IL-13, and IL-17A were observed in EG tissue compared to control tissue in the replication cohort. Although not tested in the original cohort, IL-25 transcript levels were monitored in the replication cohort, with no significant difference between control and EG tissue noted. In addition, IL-33 was shown to be significantly decreased in EG tissue compared to control tissue; therefore, IL-33 is a dysregulated cytokine in EG.

[0178] FIG. 6A. Transcript levels of cytokines were monitored using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of the same population of patients used in the microarray study. Transcript levels for individual cytokines determined by RT-PCR were normalized to GAPDH levels for each sample.

[0179] FIG. 6B. Transcript levels of cytokines were monitored using cDNA derived from the gastric antrum tissue of the population of patients used in the replication cohort. Transcript levels for individual cytokines were normalized to GAPDH levels for each sample.

Example 12

Replication Cohort

[0180] Following the initial genetic, molecular, and histopathologic analyses, biopsies from additional patients who met the entry criteria were analyzed. This analysis focused on the most dysregulated genes identified in the initial cohort. The methods used for the additional analyses were identical to those used for the analysis in the initial cohort.

[0181] After completion of analyses on the discovery cohort, ten additional EG patients and five additional control patients were identified in the CCED database who met entry criteria. All patients included in the EG cohort exhibited increased eosinophil numbers and the other alterations described in the biopsies of the discovery cohort.

[0182] Data for the replication cohort are shown in Examples 8, 9, and 11 and in FIGS. 3B and 4E.

Example 13

Up-Regulation of CDH26 in EoE

[0183] CDH26 transcripts have been shown previously to be markedly increased in the esophageal biopsies of patients with EoE (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Clin. Invest.* 116:536-47 (2006); Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 120: 1292-300 (2007)). Since several of the patients in this study who had active EG also had active EoE at incident endoscopy, a study was designed to confirm and expand the prior studies concerning CDH26 and EoE.

[0184] CDH26 transcript levels in esophageal tissue from normal patients and patients with active EoE were measured. CDH26 expression was found to be significantly increased (median=114.9-fold) in the esophageal tissue of patients with active EoE (FIG. 7A).

[0185] Within the initial cohort of patients used in this study, several had esophageal biopsy specimens collected for research purposes. The CDH26 transcript levels in these biopsy specimens were analyzed, and patients with EG who also had EoE at the time were found to exhibit increased esophageal CDH26 transcript levels compared to the normal patients who did not have concomitant EoE or any other EGID (FIG. 7B). Similarly, patients with active EG but normal esophageal pathology showed low levels of CDH26 pro-

tein expression, in contrast to EG patients that also had esophageal eosinophilia, whose esophageal tissue exhibited high levels of CDH26 protein expression (FIG. 7C). In a separate cohort of patients, esophageal tissue of patients with active EoE showed on average 3.4-fold increased CDH26 protein levels compared to that observed in control tissue, as determined by western blot (FIG. 7D).

[0186] Immunohistochemical staining for CDH26 protein in esophageal biopsies corresponded with this observation. Esophageal biopsies from EG patients who had active EoE showed increased staining for CDH26 compared to esophageal biopsies from EG patients who did not have active EoE (FIG. 7C). In biopsies without active EoE, the staining was confined to epithelial cells near the surface, but the staining in active EoE was both more intense and prevalent and included cells in the expanded basal layer. Peripapillary epithelial cells did not stain in either group (FIG. 7C). In addition, biopsies from patients other than those who were the focus of this study who had active EoE but not EG showed increased staining compared to control patients, particularly in the suprabasal region of the esophageal epithelium (FIG. 7D).

[0187] FIG. 7A. CDH26 transcript levels were determined using cDNA derived from the esophageal tissue of either normal patients or patients with EoE and normalized to GAPDH levels.

[0188] FIG. 7B. CDH26 transcript levels were measured using cDNA derived from the esophageal tissue of patients obtained during the index endoscopy from which the gastric specimens were obtained. CDH26 levels were normalized to GAPDH levels for the same sample.

[0189] FIG. 7C. CDH26 protein expression and localization in esophageal tissue are depicted. Immunohistochemical staining for CDH26 was performed on esophageal biopsy specimens obtained during the index endoscopy from which the gastric specimens were obtained. Patient numbers correspond to those in Table 4.

[0190] FIG. 7D. Total protein lysates were prepared from esophageal biopsy specimens from an independent cohort of patients who either had active EoE or no history of EGID. SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis were carried out to detect CDH26 and beta-actin (top). The signals for CDH26 and beta actin were quantified, and the ratio was graphed (bottom).

Example 14

Induced CDH26 Expression Via IL-13 in Cultured Cells and CDH26 Subcellular Localization, Glycosylation, and Interactions

[0191] Previous studies have demonstrated that IL-13 is sufficient to induce CDH26 transcripts in esophageal epithelial cells (Blanchard, C. et al. *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 120: 1292-300 (2007)). CDH26 transcript levels increased in a dose-dependent manner in primary esophageal epithelial cells treated with IL-13 (FIG. 8A). Similarly, upon IL-13 stimulation, CDH26 mRNA increased in a dose-dependent manner in the esophageal cell line TE-7 (FIG. 8B).

[0192] A follow-up study was designed to determine whether IL-13, which exhibits increased transcript levels in gastric biopsy specimens, induced CDH26 expression in the gastric cell line NCI-N87. Indeed, IL-13 stimulation resulted in a dose-dependent increase in CDH26 transcripts in these cells (FIG. 8C).

[0193] Immunohistochemical staining of esophageal biopsies for CDH26 showed cytoplasmic cellular staining with a suggestion of membrane accentuation focally. A study was therefore designed to determine the subcellular localization of CDH26 protein using cultured esophageal epithelial cells.

[0194] Because CDH26 exhibits sequence homology to the cadherin family of proteins, with 5 cadherin repeats in the putative extracellular portion of the protein, a predicted transmembrane domain, and a C-terminal cytoplasmic region, CDH26 protein can be localized to the plasma membrane in cells. TE-7 cells transduced with a CDH26 expression construct were fixed and stained with antibodies for CDH26. Signal was observed in the cytoplasm and membranes of the cells (FIG. 8D).

[0195] To further substantiate the indicated localization of CDH26, surface biotinylation of proteins was performed, followed by affinity isolation of biotinylated proteins and western blot analysis for CDH26. This indicated that CDH26 was present at the cell surface in TE-7 and NCI-N87 cells (FIGS. 8E-8F).

[0196] FIG. 8A. Primary esophageal epithelial cells were cultured from distal esophageal biopsy specimens. For each patient, cells were treated in triplicate with the indicated dose of IL-13 for 48 hours. Total RNA was isolated, cDNA synthesis was performed, and RT-PCR analysis was done to monitor CDH26 and GAPDH levels. The graph represents the average fold-change compared to untreated cells for five patients.

[0197] FIG. 8B. TE-7 cells were treated with the indicated dose of IL-13 for 48 hours, followed by RNA isolation, cDNA synthesis, and RT-PCR for CDH26 and GAPDH. The graphs represent the average of three experiments.

[0198] FIG. 8C. NCI-N87 cells were treated with the indicated dose of IL-13 for 48 hours. RNA was then isolated, cDNA synthesis was performed, and RT-PCR for CDH26 and GAPDH was done. The graphs represent the average of three experiments.

[0199] FIG. 8D. TE-7 cells that were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26 were fixed and stained either with antibody specific for CDH26 or an equivalent amount of control IgG antibody. Nuclei were stained with DAPI.

[0200] FIG. 8E. Surface biotinylation of TE-7 cells is depicted. TE7 cells transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26 were incubated with a membrane-impermeable reagent that reacts with and binds covalently to cell surface proteins. Proteins were then solubilized in immunoprecipitation buffer. Protein lysates were subjected to pull-down using streptavidin beads. Total cell lysates (input) and proteins bound to the streptavidin beads were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis for the indicated proteins.

[0201] FIG. 8F. Surface biotinylation of NCI-N87 cells is depicted. NCI-N87 cells transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26 were treated as described for TE-7 cells in FIG. 8E.

Example 15

Similarities Between CDH26 and Classical Cadherin Molecules

[0202] Classical cadherin molecules are known to mediate cell-cell adhesion through homotypic interactions. Therefore, a study was designed to determine whether CDH26 mol-

ecules interact in a homotypic manner using transient transfection and immunoprecipitation experiments.

[0203] HEK 293T cells were co-transfected with two separate expression constructs containing either CDH26-myc or CDH26-HA. Myc-tagged CDH26 was observed to co-immunoprecipitate with HA-tagged CDH26. The reciprocal immunoprecipitation confirmed that HA-tagged CDH26 co-immunoprecipitated with myc-tagged CDH26 (FIG. 9A).

[0204] Classical cadherin molecules have additionally been shown to be modified by glycosylation, which alters the adhesive function of these molecules. Therefore, a follow-up study was designed to determine whether CDH26 was glycosylated by performing experiments in which HEK 293T cells were transfected with an expression construct containing HA-tagged CDH26.

[0205] CDH26 was immunoprecipitated and then treated with peptide:N-glycosidase F (PNGase F) to remove N-linked glycosylation. Immunoprecipitated CDH26 treated with PNGase F, but not heat-inactivated PNGase F, exhibited an increased mobility compared to CDH26 from total cell lysates (FIG. 9B), indicating that the protein is modified by N-glycosylation under baseline conditions in these cells.

[0206] Classical cadherin molecules, including E-cadherin and N-cadherin, have been shown to interact with catenin proteins, which bind the C-terminal cytoplasmic portion of the cadherin protein to link it to the actin cytoskeleton. A study was therefore designed to determine whether CDH26 interacts with beta-catenin, an essential component of the Wnt signaling pathway that is important in gastrointestinal homeostasis.

[0207] The region of other cadherin molecules known to interact with beta-catenin exhibited similarity to the same region of CDH26 (FIG. 9C; Stappert and Kemler, *Cell Adhes. Commun.* 2:319-27 (1994)). HEK 293T cells were co-transfected with expression constructs containing CDH26 or HA-tagged beta-catenin (CTNNB1). When immunoprecipitation for HA-tagged beta-catenin was performed, CDH26 was also detected in the precipitates (FIG. 9D), indicating that ectopically expressed beta-catenin and CDH26 exist in the same complex in these cells.

[0208] Since CDH26 localizes with beta-catenin in cultured cells, EG and control gastric biopsies were stained with antibody to beta-catenin. Surface epithelial cells in control biopsies showed distinct staining of the basolateral cell membrane. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated constructs. Total cell lysates were then prepared and equal amounts of protein were subjected to immunoprecipitation using the indicated antibodies. Inputs (1/10 of the amount used for IP) and immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis with the indicated antibodies.

[0209] Beta-catenin interacts with alpha-catenin to indirectly link cadherin molecules to the actin cytoskeleton and thus support cell adhesion. Therefore, a follow-up study was designed to determine whether alpha-catenin can exist in the same complex as CDH26 by performing transient transfection and immunoprecipitation experiments.

[0210] HEK 293T cells were transfected with pCDH26 and a construct expressing HA-tagged CTNNA1. CDH26 was observed to co-immunoprecipitate with alpha-catenin (FIG. 9E).

[0211] The juxtamembrane domain of the cytoplasmic portion of cadherin molecules is bound by p120-catenin, which has been shown to function in maintenance of cadherin sta-

bility and localization to the cell surface. Therefore, a follow-up study was designed to test whether CDH26 and p120 could exist in the same protein complex. p120 and CDH26 co-immunoprecipitated from lysates derived from HEK 293T cells transiently transfected with pCDH26 and a construct that expresses p120 (FIG. 9F).

[0212] FIG. 9A. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated construct(s). Total cell lysates were prepared, and immunoprecipitation was performed using the indicated antibodies. Inputs ($\frac{1}{10}$ of amount used for IP) or immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis with anti-HA antibodies; the same blot was then stripped and probed with anti-myc antibodies. The blot shown is representative of three independent experiments. Predicted molecular weight of CDH26: 95.3 kDa.

[0213] FIG. 9B. Post-translational modification of CDH26 is shown. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated construct(s). Total cell lysates were prepared, and immunoprecipitation was performed using the indicated antibodies. Immunoprecipitates were treated with either PNGase F (+) or heat-inactivated PNGase F (-). Inputs ($\frac{1}{10}$ of amount used for IP) or treated immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis using anti-HA antibodies. The blot shown is representative of three independent experiments.

[0214] FIG. 9C. CDH26 domain structure prediction was performed by subjecting its primary amino acid sequence to SMART analysis. The positions of the signal peptide, cadherin domains, and transmembrane domain identified by this analysis are indicated (top). To identify the putative beta-catenin binding domain within CDH26, CDH1 and CDH26 primary amino acid sequences were aligned. The specific residues corresponding to the beta-catenin binding domain of CDH1 were identified, and the corresponding amino acids within CDH26 are shown. Underlining indicates identical or similar amino acids (bottom).

[0215] FIG. 9D. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated constructs. Total cell lysates were then prepared and equal amounts of protein were subjected to immunoprecipitation using the indicated antibodies. Inputs ($\frac{1}{10}$ of the amount used for IP) and immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis with the indicated antibodies.

[0216] FIG. 9E. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated constructs. Total cell lysates were then prepared, and equal amounts of protein were subjected to immunoprecipitation using the indicated antibodies. Inputs ($\frac{1}{10}$ of the amount used for IP) and immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis with the indicated antibodies.

[0217] FIG. 9F. HEK 293T cells were transiently transfected with the indicated constructs. Total cell lysates were then prepared and equal amounts of protein were subjected to immunoprecipitation using the indicated antibodies. Inputs ($\frac{1}{10}$ of the amount used for IP) and immunoprecipitates were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis with the indicated antibodies.

Example 16

Effect of CDH26 on Eosinophil Transmigration

[0218] A study was designed to determine whether an increased amount of CDH26 expressed on the surface of cells could impact the transmigration of eosinophils through such

cells. Peripheral blood eosinophils isolated from normal donors were placed in the upper chamber of transwells that were coated with either HEK 293T cells transduced with a control vector (pMIRNA1-puro-control) or with a CDH26 expression vector (pMIRNA1-puro-CDH26).

[0219] HEK 293T cells transduced with the CDH26 expression construct showed a high degree of CDH26 protein expression, a portion of which was localized to the surface of the cells (FIGS. 10A-C). Transmigration of the eosinophils toward the indicated amount of eotaxin-1 was monitored. In control cells, eosinophils migrated toward eotaxin-1 in a dose-dependent manner. This migration was enhanced for the same dose of eotaxin-1 through cells that were overexpressing CDH26 compared to control cells (FIG. 11).

[0220] Since leukocytes have been described to express cadherin proteins, a follow-up study was designed to determine whether eosinophils expressed CDH26. Western blot was performed, and revealed that peripheral blood eosinophils showed expression of CDH26 in an SDS-soluble fraction (FIG. 12).

[0221] FIG. 10A. Cells were treated with sulfo-NHS-LC-biotin to biotinylate surface proteins. Biotinylated proteins were pulled down with streptavidin-conjugated agarose beads, and total protein (input) and proteins that were pulled down were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis for CDH26 and beta-actin.

[0222] FIG. 10B. Cells were either fixed or both fixed and permeabilized, followed by staining with either anti-CDH26 or an equivalent amount of IgG control antibody. After incubation with Alexa 647-conjugated secondary antibody, cells were subjected to FACS analysis to detect Alexa 647 signal.

[0223] FIG. 10C. Cells were acetone-fixed and then stained with either anti-CDH26 or an equivalent amount of IgG control antibody. Cells were subsequently incubated with Alexa 594-conjugated secondary antibody. The Alexa 594 signal was visualized by immunofluorescence microscopy (magnification=800 \times).

[0224] FIG. 11. The impact of CDH26 on eotaxin-1-mediated eosinophil transmigration through a cell monolayer is shown. HEK 293T cells transduced with either a control or CDH26-overexpression lentiviral construct were seeded on the top of transwells, and eosinophils were added to the top chamber, while media containing the indicated concentration of eotaxin-1 was added to the bottom chamber of the transwells. After 1.5 hours, the number of eosinophils present in the bottom chamber was counted.

[0225] FIG. 12. CDH26 protein expression by eosinophils is shown. Peripheral blood eosinophils were isolated from normal donors. Cells were solubilized in IP buffer containing NP-40 detergent. The NP-40 insoluble fraction was then solubilized in SDS-containing Laemmli buffer. The fractions were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis for CDH26 and beta-actin. Results from three separate donors are shown.

Example 17

Results of Elevated CDH26 Cell Surface Expression

[0226] A study was designed to determine whether an increased amount of CDH26 expressed on the surface of cells could impact the cell adhesion properties of such cells. A related study was designed to determine whether an increased

amount of CDH26 expressed on the surface of cells could impact the IL-13-mediated production of eotaxin-3 by such cells.

Aggregation Assay

[0227] HEK 293T cells that were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26 were used in an aggregation assay. Cells were grown to confluency and then dispersed with 0.1% trypsin in the presence of 5 mM Ca^{2+} , which renders the extracellular domain of cadherins resistant to trypsin-mediated proteolysis. Single cells (2×10^6) were then resuspended in buffer (0.01 M HEPES in saline) either containing or lacking 1 mM CaCl_2 and incubated rotating at 37° C. for 30 minutes. The number of cell particles was then quantified for each sample. The results were expressed as aggregation index, defined as (initial particle number-final particle number)/initial particle number.

Eotaxin-3 ELISA

[0228] Quantification of eotaxin-3 (CCL26) protein in cell supernatants was carried out using a sandwich ELISA method according to the manufacturer's protocol (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, Minn.). Wells of half-area polystyrene plates (Costar) were coated overnight at room temperature with capture antibody suspended in PBS (1.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). Plates were then washed 3 times with wash buffer (PBS plus 0.05% Tween-20) and incubated with blocking buffer (1% BSA, 0.5% sucrose, 0.05% NaN_3) for 1 hour at room temperature. Plates were then washed 3 times with wash buffer followed by the addition of standards and supernatant samples for 2 hours at room temperature. Plates were then washed 3 times with wash buffer, and detection antibody suspended in reagent diluent (1% BSA in PBS) at a concentration of 250 ng/ml was added for 2 hours at room temperature. Plates were washed 3 times with wash buffer followed by addition of streptavidin-HRP (1:200 dilution in reagent diluent). Plates were washed, a 1:1 mixture of H_2O_2 and tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) substrate was added, and the reaction was stopped with 2N H_2SO_4 . Absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 900 nm.

Protein Domain Prediction and Amino Acid Sequence Alignment

[0229] CDH26 primary amino acid sequence was subjected to SMART analysis to identify its putative domain structure (Schultz, et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 95:5857-64 (1998); *PNAS*; Letunic, et al. *NAR* 40:D302-5, (published online 2012)). CDH1 (E-cadherin) and CDH26 primary amino acid sequence were aligned using the Pairwise Align Protein function followed by the Color Align Conservation function of the Sequence Manipulation Suite (Stothard, *Biotechniques* 28:1102-4 (2000)). The specific residues corresponding to the beta-catenin binding domain of CDH1 were identified (Stappert and Kemler, *Cell Adhes. Commun.* 2:31-27 (1994)) and the corresponding amino acids within CDH26 are shown

Results

[0230] The aggregation index of cells expressing a high amount of CDH26 was found to be significantly increased compared to that of control cells (FIG. 13A). TE-7 cells that were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26 were grown to confluency and then treated with increasing doses of IL-13 for 72 hours. After this time, half of the supernatant was collected, and sodium chloride was

added to the remaining supernatant to a concentration of 500 mM in order to disrupt non-covalent interactions between eotaxin-3 and molecules on the cell surface. The eotaxin-3 concentration in both sets of supernatants was determined by ELISA. TE-7 cells that were expressing high levels of CDH26 showed increased eotaxin-3 levels in the supernatant either with or without the addition of sodium chloride compared to control-transduced cells treated with the equivalent dose of IL-13 (FIG. 13B).

[0231] FIG. 13A. HEK 293T cells were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26. Cells were grown to confluency and then dispersed with 0.1% trypsin in the presence of 5 mM CaCl_2 . Single cells (2×10^6) were resuspended in buffer either containing or lacking 1 mM CaCl_2 and then rotated for 30 minutes at 37° C. The number of cell aggregates was then quantified, and the aggregation index was calculated

[0232] FIG. 13B. TE-7 cells were transduced with either pMIRNA1-puro-control or -CDH26. Cells (7.5×10^5 per well) were plated in 24-well plates for 3 days. Cells were then treated with the indicated dose of IL-13 for 72 hours. Half of the supernatant per well was then collected. Sodium chloride was then added to a final concentration of 500 mM per well, and the remaining supernatant was immediately removed. Eotaxin-3 levels in supernatants without (top) or with (bottom) sodium chloride addition were then quantified by ELISA.

Example 18

Role of CDH26 3' Untranslated Region in Regulation of CDH26 Protein Levels

[0233] In primary esophageal epithelial cells, TE-7 cells, and NCI-N87 cells, CDH26 transcript levels are increased following IL-13 stimulation, but a corresponding increase in protein production is not observed. To determine whether the 3' untranslated region (UTR) of the CDH26 transcript regulates protein levels, the CDH26 3' UTR was analyzed to identify consensus sequences that had previously been shown to influence mRNA stability or protein translation.

Cell Transfection

[0234] TE-7 cells were plated at a density of 75,000 cells per well in 24-well plates. The next day, cells were transfected with 500 ng of a pGL3P-based expression construct encoding Firefly luciferase and 62.5 ng of pHRL-TK, encoding *Renilla* luciferase under the control of a constitutive promoter (Promega) using Trans-IT reagent (Minis Bio, Madison, Wis.), according to the manufacturer's instructions. After 48 hours, cells were harvested with 1 \times passive lysis buffer (Promega), and the Firefly and *Renilla* luciferase activities were measured using Dual Luciferase Reporter Assay reagents (Promega) and a GloMax luminometer (Promega).

Plasmid Construction

[0235] For luciferase assays, pGL3P was obtained from Promega. The DNA fragment located between the XbaI and BamHI sites was removed by restriction digest, and the remaining plasmid backbone was then treated with Klenow polymerase and ligated to form pGL3P-Xba/Bam. pGL3P-CDH26 was constructed by inserting a PCR product that included the CDH26 3' UTR sequence into the SalI site of pGL3P-Xba/Bam. pGL3P-GAIT1del, pGL3P-GAIT2del,

and pGL3P-GAIT3del were each constructed by deleting the specific nucleotides from pGL3P-CDH26 that correspond to the relevant GAIT element as denoted in FIG. 13A using a PCR-mediated method. pGL3P-GAIT123del was constructed by deleting the specific nucleotides from pGL3P-CDH26 that correspond to all three GAIT elements as denoted in FIG. 13A using a PCR-mediated method.

Results

[0236] Three gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequences were identified (FIG. 14A). Luciferase assays were performed to assess the contribution of these elements to regulation of protein levels by the CDH26 3' UTR. TE-7 cells transfected with pGL3P, which contains Firefly luciferase cDNA downstream of the SV40 promoter and upstream of SV40 late poly(A) signal, showed a high level of luciferase activity compared to the same construct that lacked the SV40 late poly(A) signal (pGL3P-Xba/Bam).

[0237] Insertion of the CDH26 3' UTR sequence into pGL3P-Xba/Bam (pGL3P-CDH26) showed decreased luciferase activity compared to the construct lacking any 3' UTR sequence. However, deletion of any single GAIT consensus sequence within pGL3P-CDH26 resulted in increased luciferase activity (FIG. 14B); therefore, these sequences have activity that inhibits protein levels.

[0238] FIG. 14A. The CDH26 3' UTR sequence was subjected to analysis using RegRNA (Huang, et al., *NAR* 34:W429-W434 (2006)), and three gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequences were identified. These sequences were arbitrarily numbered 1, 2, and 3 and called GAIT1, GAIT2, and GAIT3, respectively, based on their order from 5' to 3' within the 3' UTR. GAIT1 and GAIT2 are shown in bold text, and GAIT3 is underlined.

[0239] FIG. 14B. TE-7 cells were transiently transfected with the indicated Firefly luciferase expression construct. Cells were co-transfected with equivalent amounts of pHRL-TK plasmid as a control. After 48 hours, cell lysates were harvested, and both Firefly and *Renilla* luciferase activities were monitored. The ratio of Firefly to *Renilla* luciferase for each sample is graphed.

Example 19

Diagnosis of a Patient for Eosinophilic Gastritis

[0240] As described herein, gastric tissue of patients with EG was found to exhibit a conserved pattern of gene expression. A conserved set of 28 genes were found to be upregulated, and 76 genes were found to be downregulated in gastric tissue of patients with active EG compared to control patients, representing an EG transcriptome that can be used for providing a diagnosis of EG. Such a diagnosis can be used to distinguish EG from a normal condition in a patient.

[0241] The diagnostic method is carried out on a patient to determine if the patient has EG. RNA extraction is performed on a patient gastric biopsy tissue sample. After RNA quantity/quality measurement by nanodrop, 1000 ng of the RNA sample is measured for the reverse transcription (RT) reaction. cDNA corresponding to 500 ng RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of at least one of the genes, or a subset of the genes or all of the genes, as listed in Tables 9 and 10, as a single or multiplex format using at least one of a

variety of gene quantification techniques, such as, for example, Taqman (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif.), Light-Cycler (Roche Applied Science, Penzberg, Germany), ABI fluidic card (Life Technologies), NanoString® (NanoString Technologies, Seattle, Wash.), and the like. The data is analyzed to determine expression levels of the markers as disclosed herein to establish an EG diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report.

Example 20

Diagnosis of a Patient for EG (as Distinguished from Other Eosinophilic or Inflammatory GI Disorders)

[0242] In addition to EG and EoE, there are a number of additional eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGIDs), including eosinophilic duodenitis (ED), eosinophilic jejunitis (EJ), eosinophilic ileitis (EI), and eosinophilic colitis (EC), and the like (Rothenberg, M. *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 113: 11-28 (2004); Talley, N. et al. *Gut* 31:54-8 (1990)). There are also several other inflammatory gastrointestinal disorders, such as celiac disease and inflammatory bowel disease, *H. pylori* gastritis, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)-induced gastritis, and the like. As described herein, the molecular signature of normal and EG patients was determined, and the resulting eosinophilic gastritis molecular diagnostic panel forms a solid and consistent basis for differential diagnosis.

[0243] The diagnostic method is carried out on a patient to determine if the patient has EG instead of other esophageal disorders, such as EoE. RNA extraction is performed on a patient gastric biopsy tissue sample. After RNA quantity/quality measurement by nanodrop, 1000 ng of the RNA sample is measured for the reverse transcription (RT) reaction. cDNA corresponding to 500 ng RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of at least one of the genes, or a subset of the genes or all of the genes, as listed in Tables 9 and 10, as a single or multiplex format using at least one of a variety of gene quantification techniques, such as, for example, Taqman, Light-Cycler, ABI fluidic card, NanoString, and the like. The data is analyzed to determine expression levels of the markers as disclosed herein to establish an EG diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report, thereby allowing EG to be differentiated from other EGIDs and inflammatory GI disorders in the patient.

Example 21

Evaluation of an EG Patient to Provide a Prognosis and Guidance on Selection and Modification of EG Medication and Treatment Protocols

[0244] The EG diagnostic panel as described herein can be used as a personal medicine prediction device. Based on the molecular profile for each EG patient, personalized medicine can be performed to enhance treatment efficiency. The diagnostic panel can be used as an accurate, rapid, informative, and low-cost diagnosis based on the EG transcriptome and can be used alone or in conjunction with a histological diagnosis.

[0245] A molecular understanding of the pathogenesis of EG can also improve the mechanistic study of EG that can ultimately be used to provide prognosis and/or personalized treatments based on the unique expression of each patient. Such personalized treatments include guidance for determining appropriate medication dosages or treatment protocols to

use in a given patient. Personalized treatment also allows for the modification of medication dosage or treatment protocols as necessary.

[0246] The diagnostic method is carried out on a patient to determine if the patient has eosinophilic gastritis (EG). RNA extraction is performed on a patient gastric biopsy tissue sample. After RNA quantity/quality measurement by nanodrop, 1000 ng of the RNA sample is measured for the reverse transcription (RT) reaction. cDNA corresponding to 500 ng RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of at least one of the genes, or a subset of the genes or all of the genes, as listed in Tables 9 and 10, as a single or multiplex format using at least one of a variety of gene quantification techniques, such as, for example, Taqman, Light-Cycler, ABI fluidic card, NanoString, and the like. The data is analyzed to determine expression levels of the markers as disclosed herein to establish an EG diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report. Based on the final diagnostic report, prognosis is provided, and/or a specific therapy is developed, and/or an ongoing therapy is modified, based upon the specific EG transcription profile generated for the patient.

Example 22

Evaluation of an Archived Sample from a Patient

[0247] As described herein, the eosinophilic gastritis diagnostic panel has the capacity to differentiate the EG and NL transcriptome from formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) samples. While FFPE samples are normally associated with relatively degraded RNA due to oxidation degradation during archiving (April, et al. *PLoS One* 4:e8162 (2009)), the data presented herein indicate that the EG diagnostic panel is practically tolerant to the poor RNA integrity of FFPE samples. With RNA extraction from FFPE samples becoming a more readily available technique, molecular diagnosis from FFPE biopsy samples will allow for the retrospective study of the large amount of archived FFPE samples in various institution. FFPE samples are also normally associated with longer follow-up and more clinical outcomes, rendering them suitable for a long-term clinical study focusing on prognosis.

[0248] The FFPE capacity of the eosinophilic gastritis molecular diagnostic panel as disclosed herein can make long term retrospective study possible without recruiting new samples. In addition, since FFPE sections can be sent at ambient temperature and are relatively less sensitive to decay, multi-centered studies can be performed in a more convenient manner in terms of logistics. The usage of already obtained clinical biopsy specimens combined with the merits of molecular diagnosis can reduce the number of biopsies procured during endoscopy.

Example 23

Determination of EDP Genes Targeted by Therapeutics

[0249] The eosinophilic gastritis diagnostic panel, as described herein, can be used to determine if a particular drug is engaging a specific target on the eosinophilic gastritis diagnostic panel. For example, the eosinophilic gastritis diagnostic panel can be used to determine if an therapy specific for a molecule involved in EG disease pathogenesis up- or down-regulates the related marker or gene within the EDP.

[0250] The diagnostic method is carried out on a patient to determine the genes of the eosinophilic gastritis diagnostic panel with which a particular therapeutic is interacting. RNA extraction is performed on an esophageal biopsy tissue sample from a patient to whom a therapeutic has been administered. After RNA quantity/quality measurement by nanodrop, 1000 ng of the RNA sample is measured for the reverse transcription (RT) reaction. cDNA corresponding to 500 ng RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of at least one of the genes, or a subset of the genes or all of the genes, as listed in Tables 9 and 10, as a single or multiplex format using at least one of a variety of gene quantification techniques, such as, for example, Taqman, Light-Cycler, ABI fluidic card, NanoString, and the like. The data is analyzed to determine expression levels of the markers as disclosed herein to establish an EG diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report. The result set is evaluated to identify from the result set the genes that are up- or down-regulated in response to the therapeutic.

Example 24

Determination of a Patient's Allergic Status

[0251] As described herein, CDH26 represents a marker or gene that is associated with EG, EoE, and allergic inflammation in general. Accordingly, CDH26 can be used as a marker to determine the allergic status of a patient. In such a determination of a patient's allergic status, CDH26 can be used alone or in combination with other genes found to be associated with EG or EoE.

[0252] The diagnostic method is carried out on a patient to determine if the patient has an allergic inflammatory condition. RNA extraction is performed on an esophageal biopsy tissue sample from a patient to whom a therapeutic has been administered. After RNA quantity/quality measurement by nanodrop, 1000 ng of the RNA sample is measured for the reverse transcription (RT) reaction. cDNA corresponding to 500 ng RNA or mRNA directly is analyzed for expression of CDH26 using at least one of a variety of gene quantification techniques, such as, for example, Taqman, Light-Cycler, ABI fluidic card, NanoString, and the like. The data is analyzed to determine the patient's expression level of CDH26 to establish an allergic inflammatory condition diagnosis, which serves as the basis for the final diagnostic report.

Example 25

Treatment of a Patient with an Allergic Inflammatory Condition

[0253] As described herein, CDH26 was found to be highly over-expressed in allergic inflammatory conditions. Accordingly, anti-CDH26-based therapeutics that block or inhibit CDH26 activity can be used to treat patients with EG, EoE, or other allergic inflammatory conditions.

[0254] A subject is diagnosed as having an allergic inflammatory condition. Such a diagnosis can be made, for example, according to the process described in Example 24. An anti-CDH26-based therapeutic, such as a CDH26-Fc fusion protein, a CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotide, a CDH26-directed miRNA, a CDH26-directed shRNA, a CDH26-directed humanized antibody, a CDH-related peptide, a catenin-based inhibitor, a compound or composition that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one GAIT consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' UTR, or the like, is administered to the

subject. Following administration, CDH26 activity in the subject is suppressed, resulting in reduced allergic inflammation, thereby alleviating symptoms associated with the allergic inflammatory condition.

[0255] The various methods and techniques described above provide a number of ways to carry out the application. Of course, it is to be understood that not necessarily all objectives or advantages described can be achieved in accordance with any particular embodiment described herein. Thus, for example, those skilled in the art will recognize that the methods can be performed in a manner that achieves or optimizes one advantage or group of advantages as taught herein without necessarily achieving other objectives or advantages as taught or suggested herein. A variety of alternatives are mentioned herein. It is to be understood that some preferred embodiments specifically include one, another, or several features, while others specifically exclude one, another, or several features, while still others mitigate a particular feature by inclusion of one, another, or several advantageous features.

[0256] Furthermore, the skilled artisan will recognize the applicability of various features from different embodiments. Similarly, the various elements, features and steps discussed above, as well as other known equivalents for each such element, feature or step, can be employed in various combinations by one of ordinary skill in this art to perform methods in accordance with the principles described herein. Among the various elements, features, and steps some will be specifically included and others specifically excluded in diverse embodiments.

[0257] Although the application has been disclosed in the context of certain embodiments and examples, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the embodiments of the application extend beyond the specifically disclosed embodiments to other alternative embodiments and/or uses and modifications and equivalents thereof.

[0258] In some embodiments, the numbers expressing quantities of ingredients, properties such as molecular weight, reaction conditions, and so forth, used to describe and claim certain embodiments of the application are to be understood as being modified in some instances by the term “about.” Accordingly, in some embodiments, the numerical parameters set forth in the written description and attached claims are approximations that can vary depending upon the desired properties sought to be obtained by a particular embodiment. In some embodiments, the numerical parameters should be construed in light of the number of reported significant digits and by applying ordinary rounding techniques. Notwithstanding that the numerical ranges and parameters setting forth the broad scope of some embodiments of the application are approximations, the numerical values set forth in the specific examples are reported as precisely as practicable.

[0259] In some embodiments, the terms “a” and “an” and “the” and similar references used in the context of describing

a particular embodiment of the application (especially in the context of certain of the following claims) can be construed to cover both the singular and the plural. The recitation of ranges of values herein is merely intended to serve as a shorthand method of referring individually to each separate value falling within the range. Unless otherwise indicated herein, each individual value is incorporated into the specification as if it were individually recited herein. All methods described herein can be performed in any suitable order unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context. The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (for example, “such as”) provided with respect to certain embodiments herein is intended merely to better illuminate the application and does not pose a limitation on the scope of the application otherwise claimed. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating any non-claimed element essential to the practice of the application.

[0260] Preferred embodiments of this application are described herein, including the best mode known to the inventors for carrying out the application. Variations on those preferred embodiments will become apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art upon reading the foregoing description. It is contemplated that skilled artisans can employ such variations as appropriate, and the application can be practiced otherwise than specifically described herein. Accordingly, many embodiments of this application include all modifications and equivalents of the subject matter recited in the claims appended hereto as permitted by applicable law. Moreover, any combination of the above-described elements in all possible variations thereof is encompassed by the application unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context.

[0261] All patents, patent applications, publications of patent applications, and other material, such as articles, books, specifications, publications, documents, things, and/or the like, referenced herein are hereby incorporated herein by this reference in their entirety for all purposes, excepting any prosecution file history associated with same, any of same that is inconsistent with or in conflict with the present document, or any of same that may have a limiting affect as to the broadest scope of the claims now or later associated with the present document. By way of example, should there be any inconsistency or conflict between the description, definition, and/or the use of a term associated with any of the incorporated material and that associated with the present document, the description, definition, and/or the use of the term in the present document shall prevail.

[0262] In closing, it is to be understood that the embodiments of the application disclosed herein are illustrative of the principles of the embodiments of the application. Other modifications that can be employed can be within the scope of the application. Thus, by way of example, but not of limitation, alternative configurations of the embodiments of the application can be utilized in accordance with the teachings herein. Accordingly, embodiments of the present application are not limited to that precisely as shown and described.

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gacagtgttg gacatgctcc gggatgccat ggtggccaaa gtcaatactt ccaaaggctt    60
cctgattgat ggctaccgcg gggaggtgca gcaaggagaa gagtttgagc gacggattgg    120
acagcccaca ctgctgctgt atgtggacgc aggccttgag accatgaccc agcggctctt    180
gaaacgtgga gagaccagcg ggcgtgtgga cgacaatgag gagaccatca aaaagcggct    240
ggagacctat tacaaggcca cagaaccctg catcgccctc tatgagaaac gtggcattgt    300
gcgcaaggtc aacgtgaggg gctccgtgga cagtgtcttc tcccaggtct gcacccacct    360
ggacgcccta aagtagcaac gctggagccg cttccccagc tcagagcccc gccccacccc    420
gtcctgatta gaggtcctcc tggcctgagc gcagcgccctc caccctgccc tgctgagcac    480
agacggagga agccgcttat cctgtt                                         506
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 14
<211> LENGTH: 205
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

```
tacactccac atcctacaga aaagcattac ccattttgcg gccaaagtcc cgacgagagg    60
ctggacctct tcatcacatt gacttacgcc gttgcttttc cagactgggc agaggggctg    120
acttcgcagt gtgtgccaaa gagccggtgt ctgataatcc cattttcctg cttatcacct    180
gaactgtgcc agtatcactt ttagt                                           205
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 15
<211> LENGTH: 424
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (263)..(263)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

```
agaacctgtc gtaccagcat catgagctgg atgcaggagc ccatggctga aaggagttaa    60
aacgcccagt ggtcattaag tgaaacatct tttatcaacc tgcaaaagct gcagcgttct    120
ctgccaggtc aaatgggcat gtttagaaaa taagagaaga tggctgagta tagctaata    180
ataaatgggtt gtttcttttag aaaattaaac acacacagag tgtaagagga gaggatacgg    240
ccctccctga aggataaagt ccnctggac ggtgccctgc cctcgcttct cacattaact    300
gcccggaat gtcattctga ttggttcccg gaagggtgtt tggcaagggg cagtgtatgg    360
agctacgtgt agaaggagag aaatttgtgt gtggcttttg taaattttga ccgattgcag    420
caat                                           424
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 16
<211> LENGTH: 515
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 16

-continued

```

aggagcccag gaacgacgtg gtcttcacgc ccatttccgg ggaagacgtg cgcgatgtga    60
cagccctgaa cgtgagcacg ctgaaggcctt acttcagatg cgatggctac aagggctacg    120
aectgttcta cagccccag agcggcttca cctgcgtgtc cccgtgcagt aggggctact    180
gtgaccatgg aggccagtgc cagcacctgc ccagtgggcc ccgctgcagc tgtgtgtcct    240
tctccatcta caccggcctgg ggcgagcact gtgagcacct gagcatgaaa ctgcacgcgt    300
tcttcggcat cttctttggg gccctgggag gcctcttgct gctgggggtc gggacgttcg    360
tggtcctgcg cttctggggg tgctccgggg ccaggttctc ctatttcctg aactcagctg    420
aggccttgcc ttgaaggggc agctgtggcc taggtacct caagactcac ctcatcctta    480
ccgcacattt aaggcgccat tgcttttggg agact                                515

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 17
<211> LENGTH: 270
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (89)..(89)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (197)..(198)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (202)..(203)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (205)..(224)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

```

```

gttacttaat aggtactcag cctggagtga aaatcctggg tactgacttt gagaggagtg    60
agtgtgcatg ttgtcaaaagt ttctgaacnc agttcacata gccttattag caaaagtttt    120
aagaaatggc tctatcaaag aagcaattgc agctttattc agaaatataa aagtggaatt    180
tatgtacatg tcataannng tnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn nnnngggtgg ataactctta    240
ggatttaact ctttgaatat tatctcttga                                270

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 18
<211> LENGTH: 245
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (34)..(59)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (177)..(177)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (179)..(180)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

```

```

tcctttgtgg ccttaaccct tctgcatcag ggannnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnna    60
cctcatggga ccagaccctt tgggaccaca tggcacaatg ggacctctgt tgtacattcc    120

```

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ggttggggga tgagcgttgc tattaatta ctaatattat tgaatgcctt agaggangnn	180
gggcgagccc ggtgttctga agacctgtgg cccagcagag cctctgacag taaagttttg	240
ctcca	245

<210> SEQ ID NO 19
 <211> LENGTH: 501
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (438)..(438)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

tggccagata ctatgctaag ccctttttaa ttttattatt attatatatt gtcaccgagg	60
ctggagtgcg atggcccgat ctgggctctg caacctccgc ctcccggttt aaagcgattc	120
tctgcctca gcctcccgag taactgggat tacaggcggg cgccaccacg cctcgctgat	180
ttttgtattt tagtagagac ggggtttcgc ctttttgcc aggctggtct cgaccctgac	240
ctcagggtga tccgctcacc tcagccactc aaaagtgtcg ggattactgg cgtcagccac	300
cgcgcgcccc gtcgtgctaa tcactttgaa aggcattatc tcctcggtta aaacatagtt	360
ttccggactt aaaagtttac agcacactgg cgcagaagat ggaaaaccgc tgcttgccct	420
tctccgttta ttgactcnca ttctgctctt tggatcattt tcttcgaaa aagttttcca	480
aagtgtgtct tgtgtattaa a	501

<210> SEQ ID NO 20
 <211> LENGTH: 434
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 20

gactagccag cagtgggtct ctgagagtga acgagcacct ccagggtggag ggccacagca	60
acgtctacgc cattggtgac tgtgcccagc tgaggacgcc caagatggcc tatcttgccg	120
gcctccacgc caacatcgcc gtggccaaca tcgtcaactc tgtgaagcag cgccctctcc	180
aggcctacaa gccgggtgca ctgacgttcc tcctgtccat ggggagaaat gacgggtgtg	240
gccaaatcag tggcttctat gtgggcccgc tcctggttcg gctgaccaag agccgggacc	300
tgctcgcttc tacgagctgg aaaaccatga ggcagctctc accttgatgg agaggccagg	360
cgggagaact accgcagcag gtgggcttac ggactgcttg gcgcatggca cccgcctggc	420
aagtgcctaga acta	434

<210> SEQ ID NO 21
 <211> LENGTH: 508
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 21

gtagtgctcc taacatgtat tatcaacttt gtggattaca ttggaggaaa atttaaaact	60
ggggccttga atattttatt ttgaaacta ccatgttaaa tactgaagta taatttgggg	120
gagttataaa gttatgataa acattcatct gattatttta aacaatagtt gtggtagata	180
aacatactgg aggtgagtca aattgaattc atatagtaac atgcagctcg aagtcctagt	240

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tacttaatag gtactcagcc tggagtgaaa atcctgggta ctgactttga gaggagtgag	300
tgtgcatggt gtcaaagttt ctgaacacag ttcacatagc cttattagca aaagttttaa	360
gaaatggctc tatcaagaa gcaattgcag ctttattcag aaatataaaa gtggaattta	420
tgtacatgtc ataagtggta cccacttccc ctttttactg tagggtggt aactcttagg	480
atttaactct ttgaatatta tctcttga	508

<210> SEQ ID NO 22
 <211> LENGTH: 544
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

aaaggcgtgt ttgactgcag gaagaacgtg ctgggtcaca tgcagcaggg tggggcaccc	60
tctccatttg atagaaactt tggaaccaa atctctgcc gagctatgga gtggatcact	120
gcaaaactca aggaggcccc gggcagagga aaaaaattta ccaccgatga ttccatttgt	180
gtgctgggaa taagcaaaag aaacgttatt tttcaacctg tggcagagct gaagaagcaa	240
acggattttg agcacaggat tcccaagaa cagtgggtggc tcaagctacg gccctcatg	300
aaaaatcctg ccaagtacaa ggccagctat gacgtgtcgg actcaggcca gctggaacat	360
gtgcagccct ggagtgtctg acccagtcct gcctgcatgt gcctgcagcc accgtggact	420
gtctgttttt gtaacactta agttatttta tcagcacttt atgcacgtat tattgacatt	480
aataccta atcgcgagtgc ccattctgcc caccagctcc agtgcgtgct gtctgtggag	540
tgtg	544

<210> SEQ ID NO 23
 <211> LENGTH: 461
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (306)..(309)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (311)..(314)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 23

atagtttccc taccagaga tattagaagt atgctacagt gaatgttaaa gtaccttgag	60
atccttaaat caaagtgct atatacataa gtaagactct actttcagaa aaaggtaata	120
ttatttctct cactgatccc tactaattct atattgatcc aaaggcaact caatgctaaa	180
aaatgtatag aaaatataag tctgtgtctg tgtactgtag agatgtatgt gacaagtgt	240
aaacaaatga actgaagcag taatgaacag ttattagggg gaacatgata aagagattat	300
attaannnna nnnntcacca taaaatcctt tttatggctt actaaaaccg agctcactgt	360
aaaatcatga tccaacttat tgctaactct tatgatatgc ttattcctaa tctttatgg	420
atggtgtcaa ccgttcattt gtatcttatt gctcattccc t	461

<210> SEQ ID NO 24
 <211> LENGTH: 339
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

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<400> SEQUENCE: 24

```
ttcccaaac ctctcaatga accctatgct gctactgact ggacgtacct ggaagggagc    60
tattcttggt ggctttaaaa gtaaagaatg tgtcccaaaa cttgtggctg attttatggc    120
taagaagttt tcattggatg cattaataac ccatgtttta ccttttgaaa aaataaatga    180
aggatttgac ctgcttcact ctgggaaaag tatccgtacc attctgatgt tttgagacaa    240
tacagatggt ttcccttggt gcagttctca gctcctceta ccctacatga tctggagcaa    300
cagctgggaa atatcattaa ttctgctcat cacagattt    339
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 25

<211> LENGTH: 529

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 25

```
attgggacctg tcagcccgaa tgggaataga agtgggtgatg aggcaagtat tctttggagc    60
aggaaactac catttagtgg atgaaaactt cgatccttta cctgattatt ggctatctct    120
tctgttcaag aaattggtgg gcaccaaggt gttaatggca agcgtgcaag gttcaaagag    180
aaggaagctt cgagtatacc ttcattgcac aaacactgac aatccaaggt ataaagaagg    240
agatttaact ctgtatgcc aaaacctcca taatgtcacc aagtacttgc ggttacccta    300
tcctttttct aacaagcaag tggataaata ccttctaaga cctttgggac ctcatggatt    360
actttccaaa tctgtccaac tcaatggtct aactctaaag atggtggatg atcaaacctt    420
gccaccttta atggaaaaac ctctccggcc aggaagtcca ctgggcttgc cagctttctc    480
atatagtttt ttgtgataa gaaatgccaa agttgctgct tgcattctga    529
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 26

<211> LENGTH: 441

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

```
gagtagcaga accaggagcc tcttccatc atgaggaaag attgctgctt tttcagcaga    60
agggaaattc ctaggattgg ctgtccctcg ccaagcttgg tggagcgtct gcaccttggc    120
tgcgccgctt gtgcatttgc cagtttctc ccaactgagag gatggagggtg tccgcacagc    180
tttgggcttc gtgagggatc tgcctcctga gcaaagagct cttgatcccg atttcatgca    240
cagccctgca gtaaggagcc cagaaggaac atgtgtttcc tgttaaaact cctcttggtc    300
tcttttctta cattatgacg tttgttttca aggagagggt ttaaaaatgg gatcctgtaa    360
gcagacttgg gcagttcctt tttgaaatag gttgtctgta catgttctaa tgttttgtag    420
aacacgtgtg cctgtttaag t    441
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 27

<211> LENGTH: 399

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 27

```
ggtcgggatgg acacacagcc agaccgtaaa cctcaccgta tccccacgcc tcggggcccc    60
cgccgcccc cccgaccgcg agagctgggg acatggcatg cctgcactc agtcaccccc    120
```

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```

agggtgagc cagattcctg gatgtgatgg accagctcag ctgtccccag accccatccc 180
ttctcctttt cctttgtggc cttaaccctt ctgcatcagg gagccccctc tgcctcttga 240
gtaccagacc tcatgggacc agacccttg ggaccacatg gcacaatggg acctctgttg 300
tacattccgg ttgggggatg agcgttgcta tttaattact aatattattg aatgccttag 360
aggaggccgg gcgagcccg tggtctgaag acctgtggc 399

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 28
<211> LENGTH: 538
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 28

```

```

tccacctact ccattgcttt atgaggttta aggaaggaag gcggtataat ccctattcaa 60
tatatttttt ctaaaatcca acttctgacc gccagtagg aagaaaaatg agacattttt 120
tccattacag agaaatgctt ctgacttta acatcagcat tataaaaagt gtcaataaaa 180
aaattaccat cattatcatt aaaataaatt ttcactgtat ttgagatggg aggggttaagg 240
ctcagggatt ttatttcagt gaactgctgg aactcacaca tgccctgata tgtaaatgat 300
gatttatgtt ggcgagtctg agagcaagcc caaatgtgtt cttcaaagga caatgggaaa 360
ctgtaaagta gagaactaaa gaataaggcc tttagaatct gacacatctg ggttcaaatt 420
ctgaaactgt cacttattac ctgtatgaac atgggcaaat tatctaactc ctctgatcta 480
tttttcctca tctgtaaaat aggtgtaata ataacaacta ctttgcgggt tgctctga 538

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 29
<211> LENGTH: 347
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 29

```

```

ttattcttgc atttcataa ggaaaggga agtcatgatc atcctaaagg atcacagttt 60
ttaaaggca aacattttcc ctaaggaaac agacacaagc ttctctagag aatgatgatg 120
tttttaggca ttaataaggc ccttttttat aaaggacact tttctcctag tagttttgaa 180
ttcaggaaca gatccaaagt tagcagtata tggctgttac atttccattt tcattttcga 240
gccatcagtt tatgttcaga tgccatctct gtaatcgac atttaaaaca taactgtagc 300
ctcactaatg gaaaagtagt atgatgaaca atcattccca atggtgt 347

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 30
<211> LENGTH: 503
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (313)..(313)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 30

```

```

acttttgact tattcgtttt gcctggaagc actaaggctt acagtctgtg gtgactggca 60
gtaagaatca acatggtttt cctttttctt tttctccagt gaaaactatt tccactttaa 120
gtcttctgca cacggcaatt aatgagagga aataatactc cctgacccaa tcacaaacat 180
tctgtataat catataagtt acttttccaa gctgcacaaa tgatatgttt cacatgctga 240

```

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gaattgttaa caagtacagt actcaatacg caatgttaga acttactttg tttaaagcaa	300
atagactgag atnaaatatc tatcccctaa cccaagatg cttacaatct tcctagagtt	360
caaggcttgc ttataaaaac aacaacaaca tcaacaacaa agcaataaga ggcaatgaat	420
ggcaatacag ataataaaca ccagaaagaa gttcgctgta agttggtgta gttatggaaa	480
tgatgatctg tagttcgtct gag	503

<210> SEQ ID NO 31
 <211> LENGTH: 357
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 31

atatttcagt atgttcttca gagggatagt tctgattttt catgccttgg gaagaatctc	60
ttgcttcaat gctaaaaata cttggtagat cagcatgctg gctctcctcc tgtgaagaat	120
attctggctg aagctgttca aaacattgtt cagatcctgc attaagaaat tcaaaaatca	180
gttaatcatc gttacatgtt gtaaaagttg gatactgaca gtctctaata gtttatcatc	240
caattgcaag taacctacaa ttttaggcat aaaagttgat gtgtataaac atgaatacaa	300
agataaggat ggtcacagtg attttctaaa ctacagctca caccaagtat tttttct	357

<210> SEQ ID NO 32
 <211> LENGTH: 125
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 32

ttgataccct cacccttact acactgtatc ctccatttga atgttgtaa gagctcttct	60
cacaattgta aataataatt gtgtaatttt gttttttttt tctacttta ggttgctcct	120
tgagg	125

<210> SEQ ID NO 33
 <211> LENGTH: 373
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 33

cattgtgaaa acactgcctt gcttaggcac acccccttcc cagaattaac ttccattta	60
attctatagt ttttactga tgtaacttcc tagactggac acaaagatg actaatagta	120
atcactccaa gttgatgttg actgttgggt tgtggtgaaa tcattttgca ttaaagggaag	180
gtaaaatact aataaattgc atattccttg accagagcac agattactta tgettcttaa	240
ttttttaaaa tcttaaatcc tctgtccaac tggagtatct ggctatgggc catgggtact	300
catataccct ttgtcttaaa ctgatctgtt acattttatg ttcttggggc tagaagtagc	360
ctgagtttgc tgt	373

<210> SEQ ID NO 34
 <211> LENGTH: 476
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: {76}..{76}
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:

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<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (178)..(182)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (184)..(184)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (433)..(433)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (439)..(439)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (443)..(443)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 34

agctatgatt catcttaatg cttgtatcca cttcctttta tgagcaattt aaatattagg      60
gcatacacca cctgtntttt ttgaaagttg tatgtgtttt attttcccag gattactctc      120
ttaacatctt aaagcagtaa aagtatacag tattaatgaa accaaaattg cccttttnnn      180
nnangctaata ttccaaata tttatttagt tcataaaatt cacattttat tttttaaaca      240
ttataggtta gaagaattac aattgtaatt ccctggcacc atgatagcat tattgtggta      300
gtactgctag gtgagggaat ggtatgttaa gtctgttttt gaaaagtaaa atgaatacga      360
gttcacaatc acgaaataca gattgttaaa agtcttgtaa cagaaaaatc caaagttagt      420
atagttttta aanaagccna aantacatgg agcaagttgc tgtcataaaa gctgcc          476


<210> SEQ ID NO 35
<211> LENGTH: 505
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (69)..(69)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (168)..(168)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (182)..(182)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (187)..(188)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (194)..(194)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (460)..(460)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 35

gttttcttag attattacag cagtgaacta tttccacctg gtaagaaggg tgcacttgag      60
aatgggggtnc aagtactcta ggaacataga tgtaagttct ggatgcacag tagttgttgc      120
ttagctgtaa gctggaaatt tcaaggcaga aacagcagat accacaanta taactgggtc      180

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tncttgmntt ttgnnttatg tgtatacgtg agattatggg gaaagacaaa agtaatgcat	240
agagatttat tttttaacat tcaattcata agcagtgttt atacctcttt gtacttactt	300
gaaaagtgtg tattatgtaa atttagtata aaaacacttg gactaattca taccatgtgg	360
taaaatttca cattcaaaag aaataccctt ctgttattaa aaataaaaaa aaaaggagcc	420
aggagggtgg ctcatgactg taatcccagt gctctgggan gccaaagggtgg agggatcatt	480
tgaggccagg actacttgag aacag	505

<210> SEQ ID NO 36
 <211> LENGTH: 564
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 36

tacttagctt actgttttga ggttcattca cgttggtaca tggcttagta gtattttttt	60
ctttttatta ctgagtggta tttcattcta taatttgctt attcattgat ttgttgatgg	120
gcatctggat tatttccagt tcgaggtcat tacaataaaa atctctatgg acatttgtgt	180
actagtcttt atgcttttat ttcttatgct tttattctct ttgataatta actatctgtg	240
gaatggctga gtcatatggt agatatatgt ttaagtggta agaaactgcc cagctggggc	300
aggcgcagtg gctcatgcct gtaatcccag cactttggga ggtcgaggcg agcggatcac	360
gagggtcaaga gattgagacc acggtgaaac ccggtttcta ctaaaaatac aaaaaattag	420
ccgggcgtgg tgggtgggtgc ctgtagtccc agctactcgg gaggtgagg caggagaatg	480
gcgtgaacct gggaggcgga gcttgacgtg agccgagatc gtgccactgc actccagcct	540
gggtgacaaa tggggactcc gtct	564

<210> SEQ ID NO 37
 <211> LENGTH: 397
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (70)..(71)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (73)..(76)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (206)..(206)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 37

gattagccta gcatttgtcc tctttatata aaggacttct tatagcctga ttcctaattgc	60
agagttcagn nannnngaca tttatttggt aacagctttt gagaaatggt actttatttc	120
taaataatta tatacttggc agtttattct tccagttaag tttactaata gttactgatt	180
tgtaatatata agtttgtaag ttgtnttga aagttaaaat gaagctgggt gtggtggctc	240
acacctgtaa tcccagcgct ttgggaggcc aaggcgggca gatcaaggag tcaggagatg	300
gagaccagcc tggccaacat agggaaaccc tatctctact aaaaacacaa aaattagctg	360
ggtgtgatgg cgtgcacctg taagctgagc tactcag	397

<210> SEQ ID NO 38

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<211> LENGTH: 409
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 38

```
gtggtatggc aacaggtacg taaacatact gataatgttt acattaatgc attaatgttt    60
ggcctaacct ggcccaacc atttcagtggt tctcttttga atagatatct tatgtttaca    120
actcaataat ctttatagag cactggccct gtgctttatt agatgcatag ctttcctatt    180
tatctgctca tattggccat tttgcaggat gaattaagag ttttgatgt aaatactgca    240
tcacattaga ccttaaggtt ctttgggtta aatttcaacc agaaaaggaa aataagacca    300
tttatggaaa ctgtatgatt ccacctagaa gctactgatt ttttagagta gttgcttaga    360
aagaactcag aaacctcttc tactaaaaga ctattgtgtt tcaggattc    409
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 39
<211> LENGTH: 478
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 39

```
ttgatacctt cacccttact acactgtatc ctccatttga atgttgtaa gagctcttct    60
cacaattgta aataataatt gtgtaatttt gttttttttt tctacttta ggttgctcct    120
tgagggcagg acagtctcta tggctttatc cgttgcgtaa gcacagagag gctgctgagg    180
tcaaaactat tgtcatgata gcaagatgcc tgtcttttct atttattctc acgggtgtgca    240
gaggctacat gatgtgtgat gacatctca ttgatgttaa tgaatggtgc tatacttgaa    300
ttttctaagg tgctattagg taggtttagg tatgcatact tgtttttaga aattattttt    360
ttcttttttc ccatttttag aaatcaactc attttttagg ttatgccttc agtaattctt    420
gcaacctcaa tattgtgtaa tggttacttt aaaatactgt agttttcttt gtgcctaa    478
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 40
<211> LENGTH: 404
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 40

```
gcagagttag caacttttct ccagaaacca cactacagat agccataagc aaacagtagc    60
aacagactct catgaaggac ttacagaaaa tagagagcca gattctgttg atgagaaaat    120
tactttccct tctgacattg atcctcaagt tttctatgaa ctaccagaag cagtacaaaa    180
ggaaactgctg gcagagtgga agagaacagg atcagatttc cacattggac ataaataagc    240
atattcagca aaaaggtctg aaaagcaagg gaataccatt attttcggat tagcggttta    300
ttaagctctt ctatattaaa cactaataga tattcaataa cggagtaaac tgttcagat    360
aaagcaagaa tagttgcaag aagtaaatc tggcacaag cgta    404
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 41
<211> LENGTH: 474
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (29)..(29)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:

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```

<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (40)..(40)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 41
aaagctctat gaactagttg gtattatana ccttaggccn tttcaagtaa aaattacata    60
tcaatgttta ttaaataactg agttaatagc tgaatacctc tttcatatac aaataagtac    120
atttgcaatt ttttaaaaag tcttaattcc attagtaact gtggtttcat agttgccaaa    180
taactgtaag ctatggatgt tgcacaagac tgtgatttta ttaatcatt tcatatctat    240
ttaaacatctt ccaaagcgca cattcatctt aatgttttca cactattttt gctcaacaaa    300
aagttatctt atgttaatgg atataagaag tattaataat atttcagtca aggcaagaga    360
acccgataaa gatcattgct agagaagctt aatgttacct gtagcggtag acttggttaa    420
gaagtgatta agcagttaca taaaattctg atcatagctt tgattgatac catg        474

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 42
<211> LENGTH: 537
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (208)..(208)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 42
cagttttgca gagcatgtca ccaaaattta ttggatgaag aaattaaaaat ggtaaataag    60
aagaagttct caacctcact aatgatcaga taagtgcaga ttgtaaaagt cctcatcccc    120
accaacacaa accagcagaa attttatgtg aatgtgaagt ttggataata tccagtattg    180
tcgcagggtg gagaaaccgt attttcanat attgagaggg taaattagag gaaagccatt    240
ttagagggca atgtggtgtt acctgtcagc attttgaata taattaccct ttgccacaat    300
tctacaccta gtcagttatg ttctcaaaaa gcacaagtgc agaaatatag atgcataagc    360
aaatgtgttg cagaattgtg aaaaatttgg aaaaaatgtt tagtgctatt aaagttatgg    420
gttacttaag ttacagaaaa tcagtttagt agatcactgt gtagttacgg aaaatgagat    480
ggatctctac tcaaagatgt cttgcagttt atgaactgag atgtaacttc atgacta      537

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 43
<211> LENGTH: 421
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (134)..(134)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 43
tacatttcac atttaccagc aagtcagtaa aaaatagtgc ttatttacat agtcaatata    60
atttaagtgt ctaaaaaata tatcttcgat ctgcccaata ttaaatgtat catttgagat    120
ttttaaaaat gcancgctc cattatgtaa acattaagat atgcctatgt ttctttaact    180
atacagcctc ttacaataa atttcttgat tttgtgcac aggatagtat tgcaacctgc    240
tatttagcct ttggtgcctt agaattatta taaatattta acaatatgta cataatgtaa    300
atactgccaa gagatcagta aggccaaata tttctctat tcacttttta ttgctcttgc    360

```

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tttctattgc tactaaagcc tcttttatcc agctttgtaa tagttccaac attgtagcga 420

a 421

<210> SEQ ID NO 44

<211> LENGTH: 325

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 44

gaagatcttc atcggtgtgc acttttaaca ggtttgaacc tattcatata gtttttgttt 60

agcataaaac ttgtaatgga taaaaagaa gatgaggaaa ctaaaaagtc agattgaata 120

atatagggaa tgattattct agtagattgt gaaagagaac tgtatctact tgcagagttc 180

aaacttttca ggtttgtttt aggtaagcct attttatatt agaaaataat aaatgaaagt 240

gggtgattatc ttatatattaa cataaggatt taccttgcca tttgtttaaa tgtattgact 300

gtatgactca agttataacg gacag 325

<210> SEQ ID NO 45

<211> LENGTH: 513

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 45

aactgtcaga aacttctgtg catgtattta tatttgccag agtataaact tttatactct 60

gattttttatc cttcaatgat tgattatact aagaataaat ggtcacatat cctaaaagct 120

tcttcatgaa attattagca gaaaccatgt ttgtaaccaa agcacatttg ccaatgctaa 180

ctggctgttg taataataaa cagataaggg tgcatttgct tcatgccatg tgacctcaca 240

gtaaacatct ctgcctttgc ctgtgtgtgt tctgggggag gggggacatg gaaaaatatt 300

gtttggacat tacttggggtg agtgcccatg aaaacatcag tgaacttgta actattgttt 360

tgttttggat ttaaggagat gtttttagatc agtaacagct aataggaata tgcgagtaaa 420

ttcagaattg aaacaatttc tccttggtct acctatcacc acattttctc aaattgaact 480

ctttgttata tgtccatttc tattcatgta act 513

<210> SEQ ID NO 46

<211> LENGTH: 375

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<220> FEATURE:

<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base

<222> LOCATION: (46)..(46)

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 46

gagactggag acatgattgt gccactgtac tccagcctgg gtgacngagt gagaccctgt 60

ctcaaaaaca aacaaataaa taaaaccaca acaagggtaca tttaggcaaa aatataaagt 120

ctcacaaatgc caattatttg tcaagatatg gaataacaga aactcatata ctcttgga 180

ggctaaattg atagaatcat cttgtggaaa gtttgttatt acctatcagc gtatggatcc 240

aatactctaa gaagacctca taattttaca cctagggtaaa tattaatatt ttacaaactt 300

cacatatgtc cataaagaaa cacaagtaaa aatacttata gcaaaaaact ggaaataact 360

agggtccactg atagg 375

-continued

<210> SEQ ID NO 47
<211> LENGTH: 298
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 47

```
ggaatctggg atgactotta gtaatctact attcttaatt caacgatggc caccagctac    60
ctgacacatt ttgtaaatat agcatctgtg tatgtgtgtt cgtgtatgtg tgtgtgcgtg   120
catgtgcaca ttactgcatt tattctcaaa tggatttata atttagtggt tttgtacaag   180
tacttgagct attcatgtaa tgggataagt tgccataaag atgtacataa atgaccctta   240
atttggcacg ttttcacatt taatttttta aaatacagct tttcatatac agttccta    298
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 48
<211> LENGTH: 511
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 48

```
ttgacttcaa aatcatggct tatatgtact ttctctatct ccagatgca aatataatta    60
attgacttta tttatctagg aaatgttact catatcttaa ttgtatcat tggcttgagt   120
gacgggtttt ggtaattcaa ctactattac ttgaaagtag tagatttcat aggatactgt   180
tataaaatct ttttaacctc tttcttgatt tcaggagtaa ttagtaattg tggtttactg   240
gaaaattcaa tgaatagggt gttaaaggaa gcaattcatt aataatatat gtaatctatt   300
gggagactga ggcggttgga tcacctgagt tcaggagttc gagaccagcc tggccaacat   360
ggcaaaactc cgtctctact gaaaatagaa aaattcgccg ggcatggtgg tgcattcctg   420
tattcccagg tactcggaag gctgaggcag gagaatcacc tgaactccag aggtggaggt   480
tgcagcgagt caggatcgca gcactacact c                                511
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 49
<211> LENGTH: 326
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (104)..(104)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 49

```
tcacccatac gtccaacatc gaaagaaaac cagtgttatg actttgttcc atttgaagac    60
taattgggag tccatctctc tattggcact gggttcgatt gccnctggct aatagagttc   120
aattagttct atccctgggt ttcctttctt agctatgggg tggagatag gagggggaga   180
tctacaattt gaatatgtgt tacttaataa ggctaggctg gccatcagtt gcttatttca   240
gatgtgtcac taaatttttc ttctagatgg tccttgagca aaacttaata attactgttt   300
tttattttca ctgcctttat aaaatc                                326
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 50
<211> LENGTH: 381
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (83)..(87)

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (98)..(98)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (323)..(323)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 50

```
aagacacccat atatgctcat gccttaaact tggacttccc agcctccaga accatgagaa    60
ataaatctgt gtgactgatt gannnnnacc cagtctnta aatactccat actagtctct    120
gggtatttgt tataccatcc tgaatggact aagacacata ggtctatgt tacaactact    180
cagctctgct attatagcac aaaagaagcc agataatata ttaattataa acaaatgggc    240
atgggtatat ccaataaagc ttcatttaca aaaatagcca gcctatggac cacatttgac    300
taagttcaaa cagaaataat ccnctttaac aagaaataaa acaataccat ttaaaggaag    360
ataacataag ccagatgcct t                                     381
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 51
<211> LENGTH: 479
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 51

```
gagtgatttc tgtttaatcg caatttggtg gtaataccaa tgtgtgaaat tagtgaaatc    60
ttagtacctt aacttcaaac atttctcttc agaaaagttc ccttttctaa aattgagata    120
acatagttct tgaatatctt gctgtattta tagcctcata tttaggcatt tatgcactga    180
tgtgtcttca ataaaaatct tgtacagata tatttttata attatttata atttatattt    240
tgatattcta ttttaagttat cctgattctt taaaagtagt tattgggagt agaagaacac    300
aatataaata tttccgtgtg atagccacca acttttcagg catagggtttt attacaactg    360
ttaaggagggt tttgcttctt cttagataaa caacttggtt gcccaaaaaga atcctaattt    420
gtacacttaa catgtatttg tattaactt tttaaataat tgctttctta tcaaaccaa    479
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 52
<211> LENGTH: 369
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 52

```
atctagatgc atccatagca cctagtgaag gctcaccata tggtcagaat actcgatgca    60
cactgataca actctctaca tccatctctg tgtagggac aaatgttact ttactcttgc    120
acagaacttg gacagtcact ttaatatct gtcttttctt tttctatttt cattactgat    180
acctctgccc cttctttctt gactaaaact ctcatccaat aaaattatag tcaaatcttg    240
caattggaaa agtattcaga cttttaaagt tatatttata tatctaaatg ttgtccatt    300
aggggtttta ttctaaattt aacctttaaa aagttatcat attttcttta tttccagggt    360
cctaggaga                                     369
```

<210> SEQ ID NO 53
<211> LENGTH: 562
<212> TYPE: DNA

-continued

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 53

```

ggatatgtttt ttcacatttc tcataatttc cacgtcaact cccatgatga tcatgcagga      60
aagcagcatg attgcacttc ttgtagtga taccatcact aaaacatagt tactgtcttt      120
ctgtggtcctt aagaaaaatt cagaacacgc ataccaatgt acatataaga taaataagct      180
tatgtggtac agtaagtgtt ctgttctgag aaataccttg attcgtatcc taatgtctga      240
tgttattggt agttctcaaa cttccccaat tctgctttca tctaaattca tcttatctat      300
ctattgttaa ataatctatc agtccatttt tatctatcat ctatatatct gtctttatca      360
atcattcgctc tgtaatctat ctgtgccgtt tggcataaga gacagaaggg catagcagtg      420
gaaactcaaa ggagttacct ccatgtgaat ggacagtggg gatggtgatc tgtgaggtgg      480
tgatgtatag aaagaaaaac tagaagagag catgccctaa ctcagggacc ttgtccagca      540
ggcactctgg ccttgttata ct                                          562

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 54

<211> LENGTH: 424

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<220> FEATURE:

<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base

<222> LOCATION: (180)..(180)

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 54

```

attgccaaact tttgggagat ttcacatatt ttacctctat attttatttt tccaggattg      60
gtatggagga gtagtacctt ctattcttgg tttattttta tttgctagac ataatttctt      120
aactacatat gtaagtataa attcataaaa atcacactga aagaataggt tgatttcaan      180
ccattttgag ggtactggta ggtaacacac tgttggggaa taaactaaag aatttctgat      240
ttctacaata gattttaagta tgaaatttga gtatactgtg tagctgtgta gatcaactta      300
atgcttaaaa aattacctcc ttaatgatta gattaataga acagtgttag attatcaagg      360
gaagagtttg gaatgtaaac ataaacatgc tgcataagggt gtggttattt gtgagtagga      420
ctac                                          424

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 55

<211> LENGTH: 468

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 55

```

ggcatagtaa cttgtaaata cgtctataaa tatttgaca atgacttaac tttagaattg      60
cttcaactag agtgtatgta tatatagata gatagataca tagtctctcc atatatctat      120
atacacacac aatggaatat tattctgcca caaaaagaag gaaatcttgt ttgtgccaac      180
gtggatgaac ctggaggaca ttaggctaag tgaataaggc aggcacagaa aggcacataa      240
ccacatgatc tcacttatat gtggaatcta aaaaagtga tctcgtagaa ctagattgta      300
gattaggggg tggggtaggt gtggtggggg ggaggttgtt ggtcagagga tacagtttca      360
gctggataga ataagttcta aagatcaatt gtgaaacgtg atgactataa taatacagtt      420
gacccttgaa caacataggt tttaactggg tggcgacatt atacatga                      468

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<210> SEQ ID NO 56
<211> LENGTH: 452
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (390)..(390)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 56

attaattcca tatctggcaa caggtggact agatgtctgg cgaataacac ctaatataaa	60
acacctgtca cgggtgattga aaaaaatcaa cagctatctc attaatgca tggcaagtaa	120
aatatatctt ctggggccaa aaatagacca gaattatctg ctacttgaat gtttggcaaa	180
actctcctag aaaactgagt ctgatgtttg atttgtgtaa agacttcttt aacttttcta	240
actcaatttt tactaagtta taggactact cagattttgt ttcttttttg ctcaattttg	300
gtcaattttg tttttgtcta tgtcacctaa gttttcaaat gtattggcat gaatattttc	360
ataatattcc cttattatct ttacatttn tgggatatct ttagcgatgt ttcccttttt	420
atccctaaaa ttgtttatct atgctttctt tt	452

<210> SEQ ID NO 57
<211> LENGTH: 535
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (110)..(110)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 57

aacaggataa gtggtagccc attatataag aagaccgata agaatttctt aaatatgcca	60
aaaataatct gaacaatcag ccatttctgt gaactgtggc tttagtacn tccaattgtc	120
tttcacaaat tctgttggtg aatgtgtaaa ctggcataaa catgtacaga aatcaattag	180
caattttatct gaattctctc cctcaggaag tactctgtga actaaacata atgcagagta	240
agtactttca cttgaaatga cagggcatct gagttttgct tcaaaataat gttggggcca	300
ggtgcagtag ctcacacctg taatcctagc actttgggag gcccaaggag aaggatcacc	360
tgagctcagg agttcaagac cagcctaggc aacatagtga gatctcgtct ctaaaataaa	420
tatacaaaag agtattggga gggggatga agaattgata gggcaataat tgaaatctgt	480
tgaagctggg tacacaaaag ttcattatgt tgtttctcta catttatatc tattt	535

<210> SEQ ID NO 58
<211> LENGTH: 537
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 58

ggttacccca tttgttaatg agcattaatg ttttctgaac acttccaaag attaatcaaa	60
cataaatatt cattgtctga aaatgtcttt aagatacaat tcagaggtcc ctatttcctt	120
tgtacatata cacttagaaa gaaaagacag aaaaggaaga ggaaggaagg aaatattttg	180
agaatatatt gagaagaatt aagaaaactc ttcaatgaag tgttaacaac caaacctac	240
agacggtatc agaaacagca aatagatatt cctctacct ttcacagtga gtgagtgagt	300

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acagaagaat gtcctatgata gttttgcctt cattctactt tctgtggaca cagagtaatg	360
aatatattaat gggacattaa atatgccctt caaatctata attttacttt ggtaaacgag	420
atttaacatg atgtctttta tgctcctaaa acatcttttt tcaaaactcca ttccttagaa	480
cattctttcta ctgagatgat ccaagaccaa aagtgttctt tggctactgc ttataaa	537

<210> SEQ ID NO 59
<211> LENGTH: 455
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 59

aagcctttag gcagaatgta caccttggtt gtcatttgag aattcatact ggtgaaaaac	60
cctatgaatg taaagaatgt ggaaaagctt ttagaatcag ttcacagctg gctactcatc	120
agagaattca tactggagag aagccttatg aatgtattga atgtggaaat gctttcaaac	180
agagatcaca ccttgcccaa catcagaaaa ctcatcagg agagaaacct tatgagtgtt	240
atgaatgcgg gaaagccttc agccaaactt ccaatcttac tcaacatcaa agaattcata	300
ctggagagaa accctataaa tgtactgaat gtggaaaggc ttttagtgat agctcatcct	360
gtgtctcgca tcaaagactc cacactggcc aaaggcccta tcagtgtttt gaatgtggga	420
aggcgttcag aagaaagtta tccttaattt gtcac	455

<210> SEQ ID NO 60
<211> LENGTH: 369
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (79)..(79)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 60

gggcaaagag taaactaccc tgcaaatata tgcggataat ttaattgggt tcatattaca	60
ggaatctaga gggccaatna ctttttcagt aataaaaaaa taaaagggcc agatgcagtg	120
gctcatgcct gtaatccag cactttggga gtccaaggca gagagatcgc ttgagctcag	180
cagtttgaaa ccaacttggg caaaatgaga aaacacccat ctctaaagaa atatataaat	240
tagacagaaa tgggtgtcatg tgcattgtagt acttgatttc ccagctacct caggaggctg	300
aggtgtgaag atcatttgag cctggagagg tcaaggctga ttgagccatg atggtgccag	360
tgtacttca	369

<210> SEQ ID NO 61
<211> LENGTH: 494
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (57)..(57)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (62)..(62)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (67)..(67)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:

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<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (73)..(73)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (75)..(75)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (96)..(96)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (116)..(117)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (128)..(128)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (205)..(205)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 61

ttggtcttta tctagaagtt tgatgatttt tttgtgacca gaaatatgcc gtagganctt      60
anctctngtt ttanacaatt agcctgtggg aaaaantggg ttcgttatcc atcttnnggc      120
ttaaagtngc aattttccaag aacttattga taacgttgag tgagtactta actgtatggt      180
gcaatattgc attgttcttc tgttngacat cctacatttg tgtcatacat cctaatatct      240
ggtaggtaaa atagtgaag aaactgtagg caattaatgg tagtgccaat gtatgaattc      300
tttcttctcg ttctttgtca gataaacaaa gatatttagt atacacaatt ttacgaaagt      360
agggcttagg aaaagcagag taatgatgcc tgtggtag tagtgtggct tgtaattaca      420
ctgtgtttag cctgactctc catttcactc ttttgggttt aataatatac tctccatttg      480
gagaccaagg cagg                                           494

<210> SEQ ID NO 62
<211> LENGTH: 497
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 62

ctgctgccat tttaatcttg ctcattaacc ttactccttt gagaattctt taacaatatt      60
taaaattggg aacaaaaata gtttagccat aattgttttag ccatgtgagt ttcaggttgg      120
tacacgttca gacagaactg ctgtatcaca ttccaatttt gaatagccag tgagcaatca      180
agtgtagaga aatgataaat ggcctaagaa ggcatacagt ggcataaacg atgctcttcc      240
tagtagctta ataggccaca agctagtttc tgttgcactc tgaataaaaa tatgctttaa      300
aaatgtaggg aacagtgcct agaaaagcaa aaactagggtg tgtcattgaa ataataggca      360
taaaaattaa atgttacata agaacactat ttggaaagag ggtcccttta aaaactgaat      420
ttgtactaaa tcagatttgc catgtocagt acagaataat ttgtacttag tatttgcagc      480
aggggtttgtc tttgtga                                           497

<210> SEQ ID NO 63
<211> LENGTH: 521
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
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<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (151)..(151)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 63
ttttttcaac cttttttcaa gcagtgtcag ctaaatgggtg ccatttgctt atcactcttc      60
tttttggtta tttatcctaa agataagaac attagtaagc cgtaaatgcc cattttgtaa      120
aaactgcata gctagacaga tttgcaatcc ntattagggt aataatccat ctgttatgga      180
actggatcaa ttttgtaaat taaatagatt aaaaaggggg aaaaagggcc atgacttttc      240
ccacagtaag ctttttctca aatgctaaaa agatttgga agactcaaac tatttgccat      300
tttctctctc ttgtcttaac tcagagagaa ggccaaatat ctattaaaaa gaggggtggg      360
tgcagttggt ttttttttta attcttcagg gtctgattgc tcctggaagt ttcataatct      420
tgacagagtt tattgttaaa accttttgat gactaccaga acatttctgc tgttctcact      480
gatcagttta gtaaatgtgt gactatgttt gaattttctt c                          521

<210> SEQ ID NO 64
<211> LENGTH: 511
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (473)..(473)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 64
actcaggtgg attcataatt tgttctgttt ccttgctctt aggaaaagta ctgacagctc      60
ataattgggt gtatttctta ggatatttgc atttaaaata gaagcaatgc tttcttttct      120
tgggtataatt tgtcttacat ttttgaaagt aatagctatt cattaaatta catttgaaaa      180
tgcaggaaga aagaaaaaat tgtctataat tctactactc atataaaacc actattcaca      240
tatgtgtact ttctcttatt aacctttcaa agcatgcctc aattttaatt gtattcacac      300
aaatacaatt ttatgcata catttttactt attaatatgc tattagcatc accaatgtca      360
atataaactc cttgtaaaca tcaatttaat gggtgcaaag tattacatca actggatatg      420
ccatggctta ttaatcact gtatttattg ttaaatatct gcattgttta cantgtttag      480
tattgaaaac cacgctgcaa taaatatctt t                          511

<210> SEQ ID NO 65
<211> LENGTH: 481
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (325)..(325)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 65
taatattcat tgtcacatgg tgtgaagacc tatcaatcaa tttttgttaa acaagtaaat      60
caggaaaaat attttttctc attattacat taagaaaatt tattatccag gtgacagtac      120
atactggagt ttttgaaga agtgaggagc catgacctaa aaaagcttgt gtttctgccc      180
agcagcacat cttaaccaaa gatgttcag ctaagttaac ccagaatatt agacaggaaa      240
gaaatctgaa aacagatgat gcacttgcaa attgtgcaag gcttgtcttg taatgcaaat      300

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aggatgtctt ctttgaatg taaangcact gagcctaagc atgaggaatt ttaatgtcta 360
atgatgaagc tatagagaga aatttcagtt aatgaccagg taggtataag atggtgtcct 420
tagataattc tgatatcaga actgatgtta attgtagttt aagacaactc tctgagaca 480
g 481

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<210> SEQ ID NO 66
<211> LENGTH: 520
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (36)..(36)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

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<400> SEQUENCE: 66

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cactactcta ctatctgtgt gatattagac aaaatntttg cttcttggtta cctcagctgt 60
aaaaatgaaac acacctaataa gtgtgggtgt ttccaacatg tataatacag caacaactat 120
ctggcccaaa ctgcttttga ttaatatgtg atattactgt ttttattatc atcaacatta 180
ttattagtgg atttcttaat aggaagatgc aatggagatg acaaatgttg aaaaaccact 240
catcacttac atttcatgaa gtacttcttt gataaaatct gttatgggct gaatgtttgt 300
gttcccgtaa caattcctat gttgaaacac gaatcccaag gtgatggtat ttgaaggtag 360
ggccttttag aggaaattag gtcagtgggg tggagccttc atgagtggaa ttactgcctt 420
tataagaaga agccaagag ccagctagct ctttcaacca catgagggtta cagcaagaag 480
tcagcagtct acagtgcaaa agagggcctt caccagaacc 520

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<210> SEQ ID NO 67
<211> LENGTH: 447
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (48)..(48)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

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<400> SEQUENCE: 67

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ggagaaatac atcatgacca agtaggggtgt attccagaa atttatnga aaatctatca 60
ttgcagtgtg cacgtgaaat gattgtagaa gaacagcatt atattcattt tggattcaga 120
gaggtatttg agaaatttga ccactcaata acttagtaaa gggctattta tcaaaccctt 180
ggcaaacata gttaagggtg aatatttagc agccttacca ttaatggttg gaacattctg 240
gggcagaccc atgctcagta attcagaaat gaggcataag aactggaaag aaagcaacga 300
gactgattca attgtctgta taaagaaacc agagaatgta caacagattg ttagacctaa 360
taagagttca acaatttgaa agttgttcaa acaaatcaa cataactaaga taattgtttt 420
tctatgcccc agtgataacc agttgaa 447

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<210> SEQ ID NO 68
<211> LENGTH: 131
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

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<400> SEQUENCE: 68

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ccttctaact taatgcttcc ggacggggat ccccggaata taacgtaaga ggatttttat 60

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ttgtgcatgt gttcctgcaa ttgatctctt tgatgacatt ctcattcata gaaagcgttt	120
gatttatgag c	131

<210> SEQ ID NO 69
 <211> LENGTH: 395
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 69

aagtcttgtt gtctagtctc attcaactgc ctcaacatgc tttctttcat tctatttgca	60
tacaaaaatgt tcttatttca gttttgtaga caggatatga gttagcatatc tcgtgtttgt	120
tcagctgtcc atcctgcacg gttactacaa tgcctttttc tgccatttaa tgggtgtttgt	180
atcaatgttc ccatatctgc tgcattttta ctccataaaa aggaaatgtg atttcgtatt	240
aatagttttg ttgatcaact caatatttct gcaccaatca gcatacctat atgcatgtag	300
tagtctgtac aattgttcaa catcaaaata cttgtttact ttatgtcaaa atgtctataa	360
aattgctggc attgttctcc atttcagtct ggtag	395

<210> SEQ ID NO 70
 <211> LENGTH: 413
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (166)..(166)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 70

taaggtagca tttcatccac acgatggagt gtgtttttatt cagtaattga tttaaaaatg	60
gaatcaacct aagtgtctaa caggaggagg ttttataaat tgttcacaga gcatctgttc	120
caaggagacc ttgatgttca tagatttgta aagaatgctg cttacntagc acactgactc	180
ctctgcaaat gtctgagggt tctccactt ggggcaagtt ggggggttga tcgcagagta	240
aataaatggt gcattttata atgtaataata ttctagcaag atgcagccca caaactgtat	300
agatactctt atgtaccacg taaagtcat ctactacttt aaccagaact tgatactgta	360
tgatatgttt tttttagatt tggataaaat gacaactcat tgttatttcc agt	413

<210> SEQ ID NO 71
 <211> LENGTH: 363
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (256)..(256)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 71

gaacatggac gaaggaatcc ctcatttgca agagagacag ttactggaac atagagattt	60
tataggactg gactatttct ctttgtatat gtgtaaaccc aaaaggagca tgaaacgaga	120
cgacaccaag gatacctaca aattaccgca cagattaata gaaaagaaaa gaagagaccg	180
aattaatgaa tgcattgctc agctgaaaga tttactgcct gaacatctga aattgacaac	240
tctgggacat ctgganaaag ctgtagtctt ggaattaact ttgaaacact taaaagcttt	300
aaccgcctta accgagcaac agcatcagaa gataattgct ttacagaatg gggagcgatc	360

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tct 363

<210> SEQ ID NO 72
<211> LENGTH: 410
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 72

gcattgtgttaa aaagtccttc agccacaaaa ccaacctgcg gtctcatgag agaattccaca 60
caggagaaaa gccttatata tgctcccttt gtaagacaag ctaccgccag tcatccacat 120
accaccgccca tatgaggact catgagaaaa ttaccctgcc aagtgttccc tccacaccag 180
aagcttccta agctgctggt ctgataatgt gtataaatat gtatgcaagt atgtatatcc 240
ctatagtatt tatctactta ggatataaga tataatctcc tgattatgct ttcaatttat 300
tgtcttgctt cattaaaaatg taaggctaag gagagcatgg aattgttcag tttgtttcac 360
taaagtattc caagtgggtg ggaaagtgga acatttccaa gaaccaataa 410

<210> SEQ ID NO 73
<211> LENGTH: 545
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (205)..(205)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (236)..(236)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (296)..(296)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (419)..(419)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 73

gacatatcac tgcttgatgt atagttaaaa agagatgcca tcatcacaat tattcaaata 60
gtttacagtg tatgtttaac caagtataga tatattttta aatatgatta tttctacctt 120
gtattttcag aattgagttt agaattgattt acttgggatg tgcggcgatt cttttttaga 180
taagtggggg atgttaggaa gacantgttc aagtgttga aactttaatt tggacnaata 240
cattgaacca catgctggaa tgttttaagt gactacctta tagttttagt atgagnccca 300
cccttggaag aaagtaaggt gatactaaat tagaaaaact atgtgaaact ggagtgggtg 360
tatactttgg accatatcaa ataggttagag tattataagc ataaaagaat aaaattggnc 420
tcgcttttga aatttttaac atatatgtgt atgtgtgtat atatatgcat atacatacac 480
atatgtgtat atacacacac acaatggttt ggaagtggaa caggaaatga taactctact 540
gacat 545

<210> SEQ ID NO 74
<211> LENGTH: 466
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 74

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gtggttgatt ttgacatagc tgcaattaca gttttcttct atttttcaag ccacaataag    60
gaaaataaac tactcatggc ctataatact gagataaagt agattcatgg cttggtaagg    120
aaattttaag cattccttca aagattgacg tgctaaaata agcattgatg ttttgagttt    180
ttttacacct aggattttta gcttgggtgt gtaggtgaag gccaagactc tctgcaggaa    240
aaagcttatt ttcaactca gaaaataaaa tgtcaatcat aaaaatctac ttcaacttta    300
gcaaaaagaa aaaaaaatca acaaaaagta tactctgtat gctgggattc cgaggttcca    360
acacactggt acaaatctgt gggggggttc tttcttctga taattctaga gcctgttacc    420
atagaaaggc atttcttcaa tggctggttg tagttagttc atgttt                    466

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<210> SEQ ID NO 75
<211> LENGTH: 494
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (45)..(45)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (47)..(47)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (60)..(60)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (75)..(75)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (339)..(339)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 75

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aagcaccagg gcacggacag gaataaggcc taaactcaca gacntnttc atggtctgcn    60
ttttctgtg tgtgncagag ttatttcaca tccagaagac gcatatttac aggggaaaag    120
tactgaatta gccactttct ccatagccaa gttgcgaatg gatcccaaag ggccccggca    180
agttggacaa catgtgagct ttggcgaca gttgctacaa acaagatggc cactctgaca    240
ttgaagaatg ggcggaata catagtcaaa gcagactgga cactcaaaaa gactcgccaa    300
gtcattgttg gatgcagttg tgccagtcag ggcaggcanc ctctgggatg gtggacactt    360
cgaggtaccg gtaggtaatg ctgtagcagt ctgacggctc atttctgaaa taaatacata    420
aggaggcagg agaaaaataa ttataaccat gacttacttt ataaataatg tttacatgcc    480
ataagtcctt ttaa                    494

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<210> SEQ ID NO 76
<211> LENGTH: 307
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 76

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ggttgtccaa ctctgaatgt actggaaacc attgaagtat acattttaaa tgggtgtgct    60
aaatggtata tgaattatct ctcaataagt gtgttttttt aaaaaagcta ttgattatct    120
ccatcagtcct cattcctctt gacaaaaatc tgagttgatg gtgagcatgt acttcattcc    180

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tgactccaaa gggtagaata tttaaatat ttgaatttgg gaggtagcttt actattacaa	240
ccttccccctt gaagacctgg aagacccagc aacataagga caaacagtag tctcagcctt	300
gtactaa	307

<210> SEQ ID NO 77
 <211> LENGTH: 452
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (377)..(377)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (382)..(383)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (395)..(395)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (409)..(413)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (415)..(417)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 77

gtctgattga ggaagctatg gctgactata accaagcact tgatcttgaa gactatgcct	60
cagttatatg attacataga ctgtgggtgc tatagtagtt tacacagctg ttctctctga	120
aacggaaaca tttttgttgt ctaaaagggt ctaccatttt cattattgta ttggttatgc	180
ttagtcttcc atataacctt ctatgcattt taataaaatg tttgttatac attaatata	240
aaacatatat cttttgctgc atatttgaa taccttgaga actgaatttt tccaagggtg	300
cagaatctca aggaaatgt ttcttaagga attaaatagg aatgtctctt aacatttaaa	360
atattttctt taattcnttt ttnaataata ctatncattg tagaaaaann nnnannnacc	420
ttttcatcag tccttgctga caatgtatta aa	452

<210> SEQ ID NO 78
 <211> LENGTH: 472
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (65)..(65)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (77)..(77)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (155)..(155)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (181)..(182)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 78

cattcttcca aaatagggtg tcctgttgta gaaagtgaat atagtttttc cccagtaaca	60
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tgacnactca aatgttntta cattttaatt tgttgggttc ttattaaaag aagcagggga	120
aagaatattt ttctaaccac catcgatttt tcatnttcag tgtatacatc ttcatttttg	180
nnacttttgc aattttttcc cctcccccct taagtttaca ttttaaaaag cttatctgtg	240
gttttcttgg taagacctac atatacccaa ggtggaaagt aaacatttgt ttaaggaag	300
tcctgtcata gtgtgctcaa gatagttcct ctgcccttac cttccctgtg aagcagaagg	360
aagaaatttt ctgattagca agatttggag tgtgaacata gaagatacct atctgaaagc	420
ttctctagca gtttacaatt ctatgatata attagttatt tcctagatta tc	472

<210> SEQ ID NO 79
 <211> LENGTH: 553
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 79

agtatctact tcaactgtcag ttcaagagaa tgtgaaacag tatgtgttag catttgagca	60
cttatttaat gagccatata caaagttaga aatcatgcct tatggcacct agtcagttgt	120
gcagatgggt agtttgcctc taatattagt atatgagcat ttgtaatttc tagatgttgt	180
gcactcaaac ttgggtataat ttaattctga acagttaaca gtgtaaccaa ggtcttttaa	240
atactcaagt ttaagggtata atcttaatta tggctcagtc tttaaaaaag tataaatgtc	300
cttttacttt atcacaaaaa taaactcata tgaatactgt tccacatttg tttcttttgg	360
gaatagtttg cagaaaaata atttattcct aaattcacc atcattttta gaagtgccca	420
aatgtattta acaaaataat atatatgctg tattacttta aaacatcttt ttgtccaaaa	480
taagaacaat tgtcattatt ttgtctatgc ccaaataact attcaataa tagcattcat	540
atgtactttc att	553

<210> SEQ ID NO 80
 <211> LENGTH: 372
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 80

ggaggctgag aatctaacag gtgtgaccaa ttctgtact gaatgagagc agaagcctgt	60
gaacttccag ttaatagacc acttaattgg gggaaacgtt cacacgttat aaaaaagcac	120
tagaatgttt tgaaagcgag aaacaacagc tgtgtagggt agctagcagt tagtgttgta	180
cagaagacag atatttgtgc atttctgcat tttctaagtt tgctgcaatg agcatgtatt	240
actttcatag ttataaaaca catgcaaaat gcccttttaa aatgaaaaaa aagtccatga	300
gtgtaagtga tatatatgct ttggaaagcc tgggacggtc attgtttact ctcaatagta	360
tgtgtttgcc tt	372

<210> SEQ ID NO 81
 <211> LENGTH: 493
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 81

tcaactcttc gtttttccag gttatttatt tcataagatg actatccata aatcttccga	60
tgaacgaacc tctttatgac cagagctcct ggggttaaag gagaagggtt ttataatggc	120

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tgtcttaatt tgtttggtgg ttttccaggt attaatgcca aatttgccctt tgtttagttt	180
ctgtttctta tcacactggt ttcagggtac atcattatct taaaaaggca gaggccttat	240
ttttctcggt gtgatataac ctaattctta gaggtttctt accaagatca ctttgcttgt	300
tttgcttaat tttattttct aaattttaca aattaatatt ttccaccaa aggtggaacg	360
aaacaaagac agcaaaatat caaactgttt agtaatagtt aaaaaagtca agtgggaagg	420
aagggtgagg ctgaggcagg agaatcgctt gaaccaggga ggtggagggt tcagtgcagt	480
gaggctgcgt cac	493

<210> SEQ ID NO 82
 <211> LENGTH: 490
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 82

gtgacacacg actgctcata caagcggagc agacttctga cggtcctaat ccttggtgaca	60
tggttaagca acctagatac cgaaaagggc ctgatgtctg ctttgataac aatgtcttgg	120
aggattatac tgactgtggt ggtgtttctg gattaaatcc ctccctgtgg tatatcattg	180
gaatccagtt tctactactt tggttggtat ctggcagcac acaccggtg ttatgacctt	240
ctaaaaacca aatctgcata gttaactcc agaccctgcc aaaacatgag ccctgccttc	300
aattacagta acgtagggtc agctataaaa tcagacaaac attagctggg cctgttccat	360
ggcataaacac taaggcgcag actcctaagg caccactgg ctgcatgtca ggggtgcaga	420
tccttaaacy tgtgtgaatg ctgcatcatc tatgtgtaac atcaaagcaa aatcctatac	480
gtgtcctcta	490

<210> SEQ ID NO 83
 <211> LENGTH: 594
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (166)..(166)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 83

taaccatgac aatcaacgag gacatggcgc tggaggagcc tctatactta ccttctggga	60
tgctaggctg tacaaaatgg cagttggatt tatgcttctc catccttatg gatttacacg	120
agtaatgtca agctaccggt ggccaagata ttttgaaaat ggaaangatg ttaatgattg	180
ggttgggcca ccaaatgata atggagtaac taaagaagtt actattaatc cagacactac	240
ttgtggcaat gactgggtct gtgaacatcg atggcgcaa ataaggaaca tggtaattt	300
ccgcaatgta gtggatggcc agccttttac aaactggtat gataatggga gcaaccaagt	360
ggcttttggg agaggaaaca gaggattcat tgttttcaac aatgatgact ggacattttc	420
tttaactttg caaactggtc ttctgtctgg cacatactgt gatgtcattt ctggagataa	480
aattaatggc aactgcacag gcattaaaaa ctacgtttct gatgatggca aagctcattt	540
ttctattagt aactctgctg aagatccatt tattgcaatt catgctgaat cttaa	594

<210> SEQ ID NO 84
 <211> LENGTH: 527
 <212> TYPE: DNA

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<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (87)..(87)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (375)..(404)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 84

atatatatct cccatgcact gttcttcaga aagccttggg agaatgtacc ctacccaaaag 60
agggagtaat aaactaggaa aagttgnatt tgggaaatgg aatcaactta gaaagaagca 120
aagaggcctg taatgataaa ggggttttct aggatgacag ctccatagct ggaatggggg 180
acaaccagac cagaatggag ctttagtaga tatattctag agcaggaaat tcgagaatat 240
ataaagtagc taaaatagaa gaaaatgtag acaattgagt gagagttaa ggggtgaaata 300
acaatgttaa atactaaaaa atcaaagtaa aggaaaaagg acaattatta acttcaggaa 360
agacaaagtt atgcnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn nnnnttgaat attgattgaa 420
ccacaattat gctctaacta tattgggaag aagaaagaaa gctgaaaata tgaaagagcg 480
ctaaatatatt actctacag gaaagagtca gtgatctcca aaacaga 527

<210> SEQ ID NO 85
<211> LENGTH: 436
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (103)..(103)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (115)..(115)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (137)..(137)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (153)..(153)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (173)..(173)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (189)..(189)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (224)..(224)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 85

gatgtaatgc atatcacctg tcatgtaaaag ggacggtatg gatgggtggaa aagttatgct 60
aaaatatgga ttgcagatat ttttgtatgt aatataggca atnataatga aacancggag 120
ttttttaaaag tgaaagncat gcaaaatcgt agncttttaa atgtacagac atnccactc 180
aaaaatatnc taaactgata gtgggaaaaa catttgagac ctantaacat catgaaatgc 240
actgaatttg gaattctggc ctagaaaggc tgtggccttat gttgggattg atgatggaat 300

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ctgccagaac attttcatct tattcttctt gacttttgga ttttttctt ttctttttt	360
ctggaaatat ttcggaaata aagtgacttc atttttcagc ataaaagtat attctaacca	420
cagggttaaca catcgt	436

<210> SEQ ID NO 86
 <211> LENGTH: 390
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (96)..(96)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 86

attgtttccc atagcagaat gtcaatatc acagtacatt tctgtaaaga gcaaaccaat	60
ataatgtttt gagtgttgaa aaaaattcca gatttntgaa gaattagaca actcttcac	120
taccttattt ctagttcaca cagttatctc aaattccact gaaactaatg ggatactgtc	180
ttgtgtagat gccagttgag ttataaatgt gacctagtaa agctgtcttt ttgtgtgtgt	240
tgtagtagtg tcggatcatg ctttttaggaa tacttttatt aaaatggtgt gcattcatgc	300
aaaaggccaa ctggcttttg tgaacaatag atcttttctc ccctttattt tgttctcttg	360
acacttttgt gaaaattacc tagcctgata	390

<210> SEQ ID NO 87
 <211> LENGTH: 280
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (27)..(27)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (31)..(31)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (43)..(43)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (47)..(47)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 87

tgaggagact ctgtaattta aagcagnagg nacgagagga ggnaagnaaa cttccatgtt	60
aacatggcct actctcactc ctttctaaac gagccacttt tggcgtcaga agttgactgg	120
agagagataa acaaactccc agtcaaagcc cctaaagcga cagtgtccag agttctttta	180
ttttttgctg caaccaacgt aaacctgtaa aagaccaaca gtgaagatta gtgtattagt	240
gaatgcatgg aggccaatgc tgccctaatg agacgtgata	280

<210> SEQ ID NO 88
 <211> LENGTH: 505
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 88

gtgggtgttt gtagggctca taggctaaca agcacttttag ttgctggttt acattcaatg	60
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aaggaggatt cataccatg gcattacaag gctaagcatg tgtatgacta aggaactatc 120
tgaaaaacat gcagcaaggt aagaaaatgt accactcaac aagccagtga tgccaccttt 180
tgtgcgcggg gaggagagt actaccattg ttttttgtgt gacaaagcta tcatggacta 240
ttttaatctt ggttttattg cttaaaatat attatttttc cctatgtgtt gacaaggat 300
ttctaataac acactattaa atatatgcac taatctaaat aaagggtgtc gtattttctg 360
taatgcttat ttttaggggg aaatttggtt tctttatgct tcagggtaga gggattccct 420
tgagtatagg tcagcaaac ctggcctgca gcctgtgtgt gcacgcccc tgagccgaaa 480
agtgggtctt atgttttcaa atggt 505

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<210> SEQ ID NO 89
<211> LENGTH: 509
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

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<400> SEQUENCE: 89

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ttactatggt tgtacgtgcc tcaaataaac aagaatgata tttcctgttt tatttactta 60
tgttgggtaa atatgcttat tgaattttta agagaggatt ttttaccatc tccatttttc 120
ttgtcattat gttttgtagc ttatttgagg gtgtctaaat ataatttcatt attttattgg 180
ttcaactttc actctgaaga aatccgtatg ttagtacatt ttgaggtatt tttcttggtc 240
ttgtgtgtgt taactatgac tcctaactga gtagtcttat atttcaatta caaaatcat 300
tttttaagaa agggaataga gcagcaaaaa tgataaggaa aatgttaaaa gttgtaatat 360
ttcctttact cttaacagga ttatatatag aacatgctca cttacaaaa taggatgatg 420
aagtttagag cataaggcag gcttcttgta tatacttatg ctgtcaaatg ttatatgtt 480
tttaatggag tcccatgtg taatattta 509

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<210> SEQ ID NO 90
<211> LENGTH: 570
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (540)..(540)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

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<400> SEQUENCE: 90

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gaaaatgtgc tcaatcttac cagtcattat aaggaaataa tgaaatttgt gtatatatga 60
aatacttaaa atatatataa aataaaacaa ttatttgctt tttttcacct atcagattaa 120
cagattatat gtgttaacaa ggtggggaga atttacaact cctgatatgt taaaatcttt 180
caggaaggta gtagaaaata tatgtaagat ggaaattagc acttttgacc acaatttta 240
gttttagata ttacctata aggatataat aggagggtgt caaagatgca tgtaactcaa 300
tgtagtatta attataattg taaaatagta aataacattt ttgtcaaatc ataattgtag 360
gaaaattagt gatggcacat ttaaccaatt gaattatatt cagttctgaa taccgtgatg 420
catgttcaaa ttaattgata caaaaatcca acaacttttag cagtttggtt accagttatt 480
gagtaccaac tgtgttcaac attgttattt cactcatatg aaatgataaa tgtatgtgcn 540
tgttatgata cggtaataa aaccactttt 570

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<210> SEQ ID NO 91

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<211> LENGTH: 520
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 91
gtgagattgg ctatgtccag atcctagctt ttgtatttac tagttgcatg aacttgtgca    60
gtctggcctt cagtgcatac acctgtaaca taagctgcat agacatgtct gttttatagg    120
gttagtgaaa ttatccaaat ggcgattatc caaatcacga tggtgattta tggaaagaca    180
tcacaggcaa agtatacaag tttctttaa gaagttaaca agaactgaac tgggtagaaa    240
tgggtgtaca aagccagaag ctttccacat tttcctatt agaggagcaa atatcccatg    300
ccattcaagt atgtcaaatg tgccctagca tttattggac cattagggtt ttcttggtgt    360
ttctttatca ttcttctgtg atgtcttaaa ccttttgggt ttgtttta atttatgtat    420
ttcttaagag gtacatgtaa ctggtaggcg cactgccaac acattactga atttttctca    480
aggttaccat accaagtgta ctatccttta gcaggccaaa                    520

<210> SEQ ID NO 92
<211> LENGTH: 428
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (130)..(130)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (241)..(241)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (243)..(243)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 92
ggctggtttg cagtgttgtg atcatggctc acagcagcct cagtttctca aactcagaag    60
attctctcat ttcagcctct caggtagctg gggtacaagt gtgtagcatc acacctagct    120
agtttttttn gtatttatgg ttgagacagt tttgccgctg tgccaaggct ggtctcaaac    180
ttctgagatc cagtgatcag cccatcttaa cctctcaaag tcctgagatt atattttttt    240
ntnttaagta gtttaattta tattttaa atttatttaa aaatgaagtt actactttta    300
ttgtgattgt tttatgtgtt cctcagtggt attttttata tgttggttta ttgccttaaa    360
tttcatttta attgtgtagt gatgtgcttc aattattttt tatactctgt ttgcatagt    420
ttctataa                    428

<210> SEQ ID NO 93
<211> LENGTH: 485
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 93
gcaaattata acgaccagta ctattttttt ttggaattga aaaccaaga agccctaaaa    60
taagaacagt gagatcaaag gctggtttct aaaacaatgc agaaaataga accatgttgg    120
aatcctaaaa ttctagcttt caaatactac tgtttccaac agtgaatcct tgacagagac    180
tgaatgcaga tggaattttg aaacatttct agtagctacc tcctctctctg aaattcctat    240

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aagtggcaga ggaaaatcca aatcctttaa tataacatgt ccattctcatg actcctgctt	300
acacacattt gtgttgattt gcttcatttc tggaggatgg gaatttgcag agctgggtgac	360
atttccttca ttagacacca gaaattcacc agagagagac agatctgtgc cttctctttt	420
taggatctgg ttattgatac ttaataaat gtggtgtaaa gaaaatccat ggctacagtc	480
tgtat	485

<210> SEQ ID NO 94
 <211> LENGTH: 475
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (206)..(206)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (267)..(267)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (342)..(342)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 94

taaaacttta cctgtgacaa ggaataaatt catgattaga agaattatac tgtttttctt	60
gtgcaataaa tacttaaggc agatgttcag tctcacagtg atgttggaag gcatatttta	120
tgcagcttaa acactatttc tgtattagat atttaaatgc atgaggataa attctaattg	180
ctttttgttt aaacagaaa catagnagaa gcattagccc cagtttgtat aaaatgtctg	240
ctgcaactga attcatgata gttcatnaaa actgaaaatc attccaattt tgtaaaactg	300
ctgctactgg tttttatcaat aaagttttag cagatggctt anaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa	360
aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa	420
aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aactcaaggg gcaacccaat gccattata acaaa	475

<210> SEQ ID NO 95
 <211> LENGTH: 507
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (26)..(26)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (32)..(32)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 95

agacatatga atccaggctg actgcnttaa gntgcccatc tcgtttgata taaactgtag	60
aaaaggcaag cactttgttc tgagtctttt atctccaaat acatagttgt ctcaaaccaa	120
gcaagcttta tcaaaatggc ttatttgcag aatagttcca atgatataaa tgccaaactgg	180
caagtcattc caaactgctt gaaggagtag atgaaccaga atctgagaat ttggaaatag	240
gtcacagaaa aagcctccat ttggctaaat atgacaatta tctgagtatg gttaaatata	300
tacaattaaa tgtctgaagc caatgagttg tttattctaa cttgaaatat atttttgtga	360
gaataaatgt tagaaaagt agtttatttt ggaaacctgc cgtgaaagga aattctaaag	420

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gcttaacatg aaactgtctg catttctacc tgtagacaa tgggtgtctt tgggtctttg	480
ttatacagtc atatggctac acgttta	507

<210> SEQ ID NO 96
 <211> LENGTH: 440
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 96

aagcgagaac gctttcatta ctgtccagag caaaactgct atggttttaa actcaacaca	60
cacattattc acatctatt ggtatactgg tatgttgact tgggaatagc tcaggtttac	120
acggcagttc agaatagtaa atatttgaa gtttacaac tctgtcttc ttaaaggtea	180
gaacatcagg ccaaagtaca acgtttaatt tcagaacttg ccttccaatt tacgcatttt	240
caatttgctc tccccatttg ttgagtcaga agaagcagca ttgccagaa acagggtatta	300
cgtaacatgc acatacteta aaaagtactc atcccttggt ttctgtctat ttcttcagc	360
ctgaggaaca gacgtcagaa aaaaagcaac caccagaca acttcccctt ttagctgagc	420
tgtcttctga ccaatcaaca	440

<210> SEQ ID NO 97
 <211> LENGTH: 350
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (251)..(251)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (253)..(254)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (282)..(282)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (284)..(284)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (292)..(292)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (297)..(297)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (303)..(303)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (305)..(306)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
 <222> LOCATION: (308)..(309)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 97

caccatgcct aactatcgtt gctactttct attggaagag aaggcagccc tgatttagtc	60
tgtttacagt ctgcattatg tggagaatag agagccatca tagtcctaa aactttcctt	120

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gccagttaac ccagcaggac aacctgtctt tgtctcttga caactgttaa ctgagaacag 180
ggcccttgct cctctagggt tgcacattaa ggactttgca cagtgtggat gtagctcatg 240
ctgctctgcc nttnagtaca tgctgcttga attttcatca tnancctcca cnccttnac 300
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<210> SEQ ID NO 98
<211> LENGTH: 136
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
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<221> NAME/KEY: modified_base
<222> LOCATION: (68)..(69)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

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<400> SEQUENCE: 98

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gtgcatcaga taattc 136

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other
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aagatctgaa gtttggtatt ttgcatat gacagttggt gagactagga ttttaagcta 180
ggatatgatt atatttccta tataactaaa aattttgttt cataaatttt aaaataatta 240
tttttgacta tgaacattag tccaaattta atatttgaca cagttcatal cagcttgcta 300
caataatgat aatttattag tctttctggt atttaaagaa taaaaacatg cttataaaag 360
actttttaat gaaatgttgc ctttttaaaa taattatact tgcacatgaa aataaaatat 420
aaagtcaata atagtccttg tagcccaatg ggaattgatt ctgtttattg tctgtaccat 480
tttgctacca gtta 494

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<210> SEQ ID NO 100
<211> LENGTH: 548
<212> TYPE: DNA
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<400> SEQUENCE: 100

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gaacgaaagc atttaactgg ccagttttga ttgcaaagtc tgtaaagata tagaatgaag	60
tctgtgagg ccttcctatc tccaagtcta tgtattttct ggagaccaa ccagatacca	120
gataatcaca aagaaagctt ttttaataag gcttaaacca agacctgtc tagatatatt	180
tagtttgttg ccaaggtagc actgtgagaa atctcacttg gatgttatgt aaggggtgag	240
acacaacagt ctgactatga gtgaggaaaa tatctgggtc ttttgcagc tttgggtgat	300
ttgtgctgc tgttgctact gtttgctca aacgctgtgt ttaacaacg ttaaactctt	360
agcctacaag gtggctctta tgtacatagt tgttaataca tccaattaat gatgtctgac	420
atgctatttt ttaggggaga aaatatgtgc taatgatatt ttgagttaa atatcttttg	480
gggaggattt gctgaaaagt tgcacttttg ttacaatgct tatgcttggt acaagcttat	540
gctgtctt	548

<210> SEQ ID NO 101
 <211> LENGTH: 504
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 101

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aactatttca ctaagagagg ttatgcatgg gatggcaaaa gtgtggttcc agaaaagcca	120
aagaaagtaa aggatcctct tattaagaaa aacaacactt acgctccaac agcaaccagc	180
tacaccccta atttgccag gggcgacctg ggcttagcca ccattgctaa aagtgcaacc	240
atagaaccta aagaggtcaa gcccgaaaca aaaccaccag aaccaagaa aacctttaac	300
agtgtcagca aaattgacct actgtcaaga atagccttcc cgctgctatt tggaatcttt	360
aacttagtct actgggctac gtatttaaac agagagcttc agctaaaagc cccacacca	420
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 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

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caaacacaaa ggattgtttt cactaggctt accattttgc tttgcttttt taacacactg	180
agccaaagat gcagtgaat tattgggctt ttgccttatg ttgagttcag tgtaagcatg	240
gaagctagtg attctgaatg atatatatat ccattgcatg ttgaactcct ttagaatttt	300
gttcttaaac aaacttagaa tttcaaaaga aaacatatga tccattaagt tggagtgttt	360
atgattattg ctagaagaa ggcagacttc atattctcat cgccattttt tcaaacttgt	420
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 <212> TYPE: DNA

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: a, c, t, g, unknown or other

<400> SEQUENCE: 103

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caaaaagctg ctatccaatg atataggaaa atacattgtg ttttcctaaa cacacttttc      180
tttttaaatg tgcttcattg ttgtatttgg tctgcctaa atttcacaag ctaggccaat      240
gaaggctgaa tcaaagacat ttcattccacc aatatcatgt gtatatatta tgtatagaaa      300
ataaaataaa ttatggctct aannnnnnnn ntgctgggta tcttggttat ttcggcggtt      360
ataactaatg                                     369

<210> SEQ ID NO 104
<211> LENGTH: 562
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 104

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aattattttt atggaaatta ttactctgtc ataattaaat catagctagt ataactttac      120
agataaccta aaaagaatag aaaagaagag agagtggctt tgtcagtata aaaccatgta      180
aagtcacatc caagtcacat ggatgaatct tgaaacacat ttagctgcca gttttacaaa      240
cctttaatat atcagtgtct cagtatataa cctcaaacaa atgtaaatag aacgaattat      300
tttcttggtt tgaattgtca atatattaaa tgttgactct ttgggagagt tgttgcaag      360
tttcaatggt gagaaacatt attgtcaact tgaaatgtgt tctgtaatgg ggacactaca      420
aaaagctagc tttccaatgt gtgcatagta ttggcaatat gaatatatat tatatataat      480
ctaataactta ttataagctg ctccctgtct atgtatttgg aaaccttttc acaaagggaa      540
ttgcctaaca tgtggacttt ta                                     562

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What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining an eosinophilic gastritis (EG) status in a subject, wherein the method comprises:
 - applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that comprises at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10, to obtain a result;
 - analyzing the result to determine a level of expression of the at least one marker or gene; and
 - determining the EG status of the subject based upon the level of expression.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the status comprises a diagnosis of EG.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one marker or gene comprises mRNA.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one marker or gene comprises protein.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human patient.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is obtained from the group of: a tissue, an exudate, saliva, serum, plasma, blood, oral, urine, stool, and a buccal sample.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the sample is a tissue sample.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the tissue sample is a gastric tissue sample.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises analyzing a subset of the markers or genes in Table 9 and/or Table 10 using at least one algorithm.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein a subset of 76 markers or genes from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10, is analyzed.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein a subset of 28 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10 is analyzed.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least two markers or genes selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one marker or gene comprises CDH26.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 10 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 20 markers or genes from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 30 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 60 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 90 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises at least 100 markers or genes selected from Table 10, or from Tables 9 and 10.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises all of the markers or genes listed in Tables 9 and 10.

21. The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting, from the patient sample, a level of eotaxin-3 mRNA expression or eotaxin-3 protein.

22. The method of claim 1, wherein the status comprises distinguishing eosinophilic gastritis from a normal condition in the subject.

23. The method of claim 1, wherein the status comprises distinguishing eosinophilic gastritis from at least one other eosinophilic disorder in the subject.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the at least one other eosinophilic disorder is eosinophilic esophagitis.

25. The method of claim 1, wherein the status comprises distinguishing eosinophilic gastritis from at least one other inflammatory gastrointestinal disorder in the subject.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the at least one other inflammatory gastrointestinal disorder is inflammatory bowel disease, *H. pylori* gastritis, or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug-induced gastritis.

27. The method of claim 1, further comprising developing or modifying a therapy for the subject based upon the results of the diagnostic panel analysis.

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising exposure of the subject to a specific therapy.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the specific therapy comprises targeting at least one molecule involved in EG disease pathogenesis, and/or at least one downstream gene affected by the same.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one molecule involved in EG disease pathogenesis, and/or at least one downstream gene affected by the same, comprises CDH26.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the specific therapy comprises an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic comprises at least one of a compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity comprises a CDH26-Fc fusion protein, a CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotide, a CDH26-directed miRNA, a CDH26-directed shRNA, or a CDH26-directed humanized antibody.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity is one that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR).

35. The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is an archival sample.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the archival sample is a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) sample.

37. The method of claim 1, further comprising characterizing a molecular EG profile of the subject based upon expression of the at least one marker and determining compliance with medical management based upon the profile.

38. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining and/or monitoring exposure to one or more therapeutic compounds in the subject based upon the level of expression.

39. The method of claim 1, further comprising making a determination as to the pathological development of EG in the subject based upon the expression levels of the markers.

40. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing personal prognostic medicine guidance to the subject based upon a determination as to the pathological development of EG in the subject, based upon the expression levels of the markers.

41. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining the specific genes engaged by a therapeutic, wherein the therapeutic is administered to the subject, and a sample from the subject following therapeutic administration is subjected to the same diagnostic panel in order to obtain a result, wherein differences between the two results determine the specific genes engaged by the administered therapeutic.

42. The method of claim 1, further comprising analyzing the results by comparison with normal and EG cohorts to identify genes that are up- or down-regulated in response to environmental factors.

43. An EG molecular diagnostic panel comprising at least two genes or markers selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

44. An EG molecular diagnostic panel comprising at least two genes or markers selected from Table 9.

45. An EG molecular diagnostic panel comprising at least two genes or markers selected from Table 10.

46. The EG molecular diagnostic panel of claim 43, wherein the panel comprises CDH26.

47. An EG molecular diagnostic panel comprising all of the genes or markers in Table 9 and Table 10.

48. An EoE molecular diagnostic panel comprising eotaxin-3 mRNA and at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

49. A kit for the detection of a level of one or more genes associated with EG, comprising:

one or more oligonucleotide probes complementary to subsequences of said one or more markers or genes, wherein the one or more markers or genes are selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

50. The kit of claim 49, wherein the one or more probes are used in at least one of a gene chip, an expression array-based protocol, a PCR protocol, or an RNA level-based protocol.

51. A method of determining an allergic inflammation status in a subject, wherein the method comprises:

applying a sample from the subject to a diagnostic panel that comprises the CDH26 marker or gene, to obtain a result;

analyzing the result to determine a level of expression of CDH26; and

determining the allergic inflammation status of the subject based upon the level of expression.

52. The method of claim 51, wherein the diagnostic panel further comprises at least one marker or gene selected from Table 9 and/or Table 10.

53. A method of treating an allergic inflammatory condition in a subject in need thereof, comprising:

identifying a subject with an allergic inflammatory condition; and

administering to the subject an anti-CDH26-based therapeutic, wherein administration of the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic results in treatment of the allergic inflammatory condition.

54. The method of claim **53**, wherein the anti-CDH26-based therapeutic comprises at least one compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity.

55. The method of claim **54**, wherein the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity comprises at least one of a CDH26-Fc fusion protein, a CDH26 anti-sense polynucleotide, a CDH26-directed miRNA, a CDH26-directed shRNA, or a CDH26-directed humanized antibody.

56. The method of claim **54**, wherein the compound or composition that suppresses CDH26 activity is one that targets a binding site and/or protein of at least one gamma-interferon-activated inhibitor of translation (GAIT) consensus sequence within a CDH26 3' untranslated region (UTR).

* * * * *